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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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OUR COVER

Our thanks to K.O.S. member W. H. Brown for his photograph of the Short-eared Owl.

MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT

1981-1982

Twenty-five counts have been returned this year, including a new count from Hazard. A total of 119 species were reported; three of these were observed during the count week but not on the count day; they were the Western Grebe, observed at Louisville, the Great Egret, observed at Bowling Green, and a Mute Swan, seen at Danville. As usual, several species were reported on every count; fifteen species were reported on only one count. Because of space limitation only 22 reports can be included in the table; however, every count is described. Some of the most interesting and most needed reports come from the eastern part of the state. The editor thanks all participants for their help and cooperation.

It is encouraging to note the apparent gradual increase in the number of kinglets, wrens, and Eastern Bluebirds and the decline in the number of winter roosts reported in the state. Waterfowl numbers are on the decline — probably due to less waterfowl habitat and increased hunting pressure. For example, the transient lake area near Bowling Green has been cleared, channelized, and more intensively farmed. Few waterfowl are seen in this area.

LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center The Trace and Mulberry Flat Road.) Habitat: lake and stream shores 35%, deciduous and pine woods 30%, overgrown and cultivated fields 30%, miscellaneous built-up areas 5%. Dec. 19; 6:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 12-27°; wind NW, 0-5 m.p.h. Fourteen observers in five parties. Total party hours 37 (14 on foot, 23 by car). Total party miles 276 (12 on foot, 264 by car). Total species 78; total individuals 114,596.

The best find was the Orange-crowned Warbler by Erwin and Miller. Considering the cold and consequent freezing of ponds and the shorelines of shallow bays, the variety of waterfowl was excellent although numbers were down. The Starling roost at Kentucky Dam is much smaller this year. TVA and the USA Corps overflew Kentucky and Barkley Lakes, and observers reported a total of 21 Bald Eagles. The Turkey population is reported to be up; turkeys were seen during the count week but not on the count day. — Robin Adams, Liz Ahlvin, David Berry, Wally Brines, Jan Eberhardt, Roger Eberhardt, Joe Erwin, Mike Miller, Clell Peterson (compiler), Edwin Ray, Shirley Rhea, Mark Shell, Betty Stokes, Bill Wells.

MARION (center Forest Grove.) Habitat: 35% meadows and fence rows, 40% deciduous woods, 25% coniferous woods. Dec. 27; 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 30-50°; wind calm. Three observers in two parties. Total party hours 14 (8 on foot, 6 by car). Total party miles 42 (8 on foot, 34 by car). Total species 46; total individuals 1,403. — C. L. Frazer (compiler), Jim Frazer, Marie Frazer.

HENDERSON (center Jct. Airline Road and Duncan Lane.) Habitat as described in 1977. Dec. 20; 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 16-32°; wind NW, 5-10 m.p.h. Twenty-two observers in seven parties. Total party hours 35 (17 on foot, 18 by car). Total party miles 210 (40 on foot, 170 by car). Total species 67; total individuals 37,773.

The waterfowl count was low due to frozen water and large numbers of birds of prey. — Ben Burnley, Howard Grafton, Ronald Dodson (compiler), Ernest and Mary Denton, Julian and Shawn Duffy, Ted Grannan, Robert Jenkins, Tom Langen, Jim Lodato, Scott McAfee, Ron Morris, Steve Pitt, Emily Smith, Chuck and Donna Stinnett, George, Jean and Wilson Trigg, Richard and Dianne Wilson.

SORGHO (center L. E. Wilson farm.) Habitat: flowing stream, woods, along highway to farm. Dec. 28; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 32-40°; wind 5-10 m.p.h. Twelve observers in three parties. Total party hours 24 (21 on foot, 3 by car). Total party miles 61 (12 on foot, 49 by car). Total species 47; total individuals 3,318.

Sighting the Goshawk was a first for the party that located it. — Joey and Marty Brown, Joe Ford (compiler), Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Iles, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Powell, Phillip Roca, Tommy Stevenson, Linda Ward, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wilson.

YELVINGTON (center U.S. Hwy. 60 and Ky. Hwy. 405 at Maceo.) Habitat: extensive bottomlands, creek bottoms, lakes, woods, farm lands and fields. Dec. 19; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy to clear; temp. 12-14°; wind 5-10 m.p.h. Ten observers in five parties. Total party hours 25 (22 on foot, 3 by car). Total party miles 22 (7 on foot, 15 by car). Total species 57; total individuals 1,886. — Joey Brown, Marty Brown, Mike Brown, Ray Iles, A. L. Powell (compiler), Mildred Powell, Rose Anne Radzelovage, Maude Ray, Dan Styke, Linda Ward.

MADISONVILLE (center Madisonville as described in 1972.) Habitat: deciduous woodlands and thickets 50%, lake shore 30%, open fields 20%. Dec. 27; 5:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 38-40°; wind SW, 10-15 m.p.h. Four observers in two parties. Total party hours 17 (14 on foot, 3 by car). Total party miles 58 (7 on foot, 51 by car). Total species 48; total individuals 1,245. — Thelma Gentry, James Hancock (compiler), Mary Travis, Nathanael Travis.

HOPKINSVILLE (center at intersection of U.S. 68 and Pennyrile Parkway.) Habitat as described in 1980. Jan. 3; 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky overcast, mostly cloudy; temp. 51-54°; wind S, 0-10 m.p.h.; fog and light rain in morning, intermittent rain in afternoon. Six observers in three parties. Total party hours 22 (2 on foot, 20 by car). Total party miles 257 (2 on foot, 255 by car). Total species 44; total individuals 2,762. — Freddie Higgins, Kathryn Higgins (compiler), Helen Marshall, Dee Plunkett, Roger and Maggie Selvidge.

BOWLING GREEN (center and habitat as described in 1980.) Dec. 19; 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 8-27°; wind W, 0-2 m.p.h. Seven observers in two parties. Total party hours 18 (14 on foot, 4 by car). Total party miles 103 (6 on foot, 97 by car). Total species 59; total individuals 1,783.

For the first time in several years no large wintering roosts were located in the count area. A Great Egret was observed in the count area by several people but was not reported on the day of the count. — Blaine Ferrell, Larry Holmes, Jeff Jones, Wayne Mason, Mr. and Mrs. Wm. Mathis, H. E. Shadowen (compiler).

MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK (center and habitat as described in 1980.) Dec. 20; 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 8-25°; wind SW, 0-5 m.p.h. Eight observers in three parties. Total party hours 22 (9 on foot, 13 by car). Total party miles 216 (11 on foot, 205 by car). Total species 43; total individuals 1,827.

The cold frozen conditions along the rivers and lake probably resulted in a decrease in waterfowl numbers. The numbers of Eastern Bluebirds (26) and Carolina Wrens (5) were encouraging. — Steve Barber, Blaine Ferrell, Mrs. James Gillenwater, Arlie Hogan, Mike Jones, Wayne Mason, H. E. Shadowen (compiler), Dennis Webb.

GLASGOW (center Barren County Courthouse.) Habitat as previously described. Dec. 27; 6:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy to clear; temp. 37-45°; wind NW, 0-5 m.p.h. Five observers in three parties. Total party hours 26 (14 on foot, 12 by car). Total party miles 129 (15 on foot, 114 by car). Total species 58; total individuals 10,419.

Two winter roosts are located near the city. Large flocks of vultures and crows were observed near the reservoir, but waterfowl numbers are down for the second consecutive year. Eastern Bluebird and Carolina Wren populations are significantly higher. The low number of Loggerhead Shrikes is disturbing. — Mrs. James Gillenwater, Mike Jones, Wayne Mason (compiler), Dr. and Mrs. Russell Starr.

OTTER CREEK PARK (center and habitat as described in 1972.) Dec. 27; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky clear to partly cloudy; temp. 31-39°; wind NW-W, 13-16 m.p.h., ponds partly frozen. Thirteen observers in five parties. Total party hours 43 (32 on foot, 11 by car). Total party miles 140 (26 on foot, 114 by car). Total species 62; total individuals 4,162.

The Ohio River and Doe Lake were high, and this may have had some effect on the low duck numbers. Killdeer were difficult to find. Eastern Bluebirds and Carolina Wrens showed some increase, but they have not recovered from the severe winters of 1977 and 1978. The number of Golden-crowned Kinglets exceeded all previous counts. A Common Yellowthroat was unexpected but was well seen and heard by Palmer-Ball and Knopf. — Garret Adams, Mary Bill Bauer, Richard Cassell, Douglas Knopf, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Susie Pasikowski, Martha Pike, Lene Rauth, Helga Schutte, L. D. Smith, Anne L. Stamm (compiler), F. W. Stamm, Donald Summerfield.

BERNHEIM FOREST (center forest lookout tower 2.75 miles s.e. of forest entrance.) Habitat as previously described. Jan. 2; 6:15 a.m. to 5:45 p.m. Sky mostly cloudy; temp. 25-58°; wind E-S, 5-15 m.p.h. Eleven observers in five parties. Total party hours 41 (28 on foot, 13 by car). Total party miles 228 (11 on foot, 217 by car). Total species 60; total individuals 7,060.

The Phoebe and the Barn Owl were good finds. Numbers of Carolina Wrens and Eastern Bluebirds were encouraging. Blackbirds, ducks, and shorebirds were scarce. — Mary Bill Bauer, Jane and Pat Bell, Timmie Butler, Alice Ann Coomes, Wayne Dahl, Tim Niehoff, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Martha Pike, Nancy Scheldorf, Lawrence D. Smith.

LOUISVILLE (center Jct. Hwys. 42 and 22.) Habitat as described in 1972. Dec. 20; 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 9-29°;

MID-WINTER

BIRD COUNT

1981-1982

	LAND BETWEEN LAKES	MARION	HENDERSON	SORGHO	YELVINGTON	MADISONVILLE	HOPKINSVILLE	BOWLING GREEN	MAMMOTH CAVE N. PK.	GLASGOW	OTTER CREEK	BERNHEIM FOREST	LOUISVILLE	SHELBYVILLE	FRANKFORT	KLEBER	RICHMOND	LEXINGTON	DANVILLE	BURLINGTON	FINE MT. SET. SCH.	ROWAN COUNTY
COMMON LOON							1						2				1					1
HORNED GREBE													3									
PIED-BILLED GREBE	2					*							4					1				
GREAT BLUE HERON	1		5							2	1		1		6	2	3	3				1
BLACK-CR. N. HERON													1									
CANADA GOOSE	208		6463	14		*				12		34	39	2	249	20	135	13	440			
WH.-FRONTED GOOSE			4																			
SNOW GOOSE			1															2				
MALLARD	1158		2300	12	1	67	1	66			39	16	813	50	74		93	127	10078	3		3
BLACK DUCK	42		135	1		7		2			2	2	480	2	20		204	3	85		2	*
GADWALL	29		10								1		11					60	7			
PINTAIL	2												3									
GREEN-WINGED TEAL	2					13												12	6			
BLUE-WINGED TEAL					1																	
AMERICAN WIDGEON	12							1					4		3		1	4	4			
NORTHERN SHOVELER			22																2			
WOOD DUCK	2			*									1					1				2
REDHEAD													6				6					
RING-NECKED DUCK	3					231							78				22	3	2			*
CANVASBACK	30			2		43							2				2		8			
GREATER SCAUP																						8
LESSER SCAUP	8												18					*	3			
COMMON GOLDENEYE	32					3							16					10		5		
BUFFLEHEAD	5					6		1		*			3					1				1
RUDDY DUCK						6							2									

HOODED MERGANSER	105					*							2				5		2				2
RED-BR. MERGANSER													7			4							
COMMON MERGANSER	11										1												
TURKEY VULTURE	1	2							1	119		3	2	5	17			6	1				
BLACK VULTURE									10	19		8			4	4		2	1				
SHARP-SHINNED HAWK	1	1	2					*			2	1	5	*	2			4			*		
COOPER'S HAWK			4					4		1			1	1	1		2	1	3	1			
RED-TAILED HAWK	26	2	55	5	4	2	6	10	5	15	18	17	24	7	25	12	25	24		6	4	3	
RED-SHOULDERED HAWK	4				2			2	3	2	4	5	3		2		1		13	1	1	1	
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK	*	1	1				2		1	*	1	5	3	1	4	1	2	1	8			1	
GOLDEN EAGLE	1																						
BALD EAGLE	5		3																				
MARSH HAWK	*	3	4		3	1	2				1	2	2		2	3	4	*	4	1		1	
GOSHAWK				1																			
AMERICAN KESTREL	4	5	28	25	7	4	40	14	1	19	12	56	63	38	40	14	35	58	35	42	1	5	
RUFFED GROUSE																	2				2	1	
BOBWHITE			32	12	12	1	12	32				13	2		23		1	1	5	*			
TURKEY	*		1																				
AMERICAN COOT	19					36							3				2	14	15				
KILLDEER	20	2	2	3		11		4		2	2		30	2	20		8	19	21			15	
AMERICAN WOODCOCK															1								
COMMON SNIPE	26			5				2					17		7			3	4				
HERRING GULL	35				2					10			16						1	9			
RING-BILLED GULL	843									10			128						1				
CASPIAN TERN													2										
BONAPARTE'S GULL	110												4										
ROCK DOVE	545	50	47	45	5	39	59	58		87	153	30	1567	271	522	6	30	281	349	31	21	3	
MOURNING DOVE	77	60	310	101	64	67	357	179	1	53	40	49	632	53	460	16	68	120	343	178	70	5	
BARN OWL												1											
SCREECH OWL		2	1		1					1		1	2		2			14			2	1	
GREAT HORNED OWL		1	2	*	1	1		1		1			1		3		4	5	1	2	*		
BARRED OWL	1	2	2	1	1			*		1			1								1		
BELTED KINGFISHER	4	1	1	2	1	1	4	4	1	6	10	3	18	2	9	4	5	14	4	4	4	1	
COMMON FLICKER	23	3	22	8	21	10	16	19	23	22	30	40	62	2	49	8	19	40	5	7	3	2	
PILEATED WOODPECKER	8	1	2	1	2		2	3	17	11	13	32	15		15	2	2	12	2	*	1	4	
RED-BEL. WOODPECKER	14	7	33	35	45	8	17	11	15	36	46	38	62	4	55	8	16	39	15	22	1	2	
RED-HEAD. WOODPECKER	3	1	10	60	5	5		2		11	3		2	1	1		3			1		1	
YELLOW-B. SAPSUCKER	5		2		5	1	1	2	15	1	6	4	10		4	1		6	3	2	1	1	

MID-WINTER

BIRD COUNT

1981-1982

	LAND BETWEEN LAKES	MARION	HENDERSON	SORGHO	YELVINGTON	MADISONVILLE	HOPKINSVILLE	BOWLING GREEN	MAMMOTH CAVE N. PK.	GLASGOW	OTTER CREEK	BERNHEIM FOREST	LOUISVILLE	SHELBYVILLE	FRANKFORT	KLEBER	RICHMOND	LEXINGTON	DANVILLE	BURLINGTON	PINE MT. SET. SCH.	ROWAN COUNTY
HAIRY WOODPECKER	1	1	8		6	1		5	2	2	5	9	17	1	9	7	4	6	4	8	7	2
DOWNY WOODPECKER	25	9	31	18	26	7	9	21	16	15	48	66	86	4	91	18	43	90	39	34	10	10
EASTERN PHOEBE									4			1						1			2	
HORNED LARK			68	36	10			20		5	7	40	1260	4	135				88			
BLUE JAY	45	40	74	71	60	59	114	43	146	104	146	282	262	8	65	28	22	81	29	24	74	31
COMMON CROW	17	30	2539	1181	32	27	50	65	58	151	166	410	200	46	539	200	109	4700	678	121	38	15
CAROLINA CHICKADEE	34	8	105	27	61	17	40	22	53	53	142	205	325	5	173	37	100	193	69	67	45	40
TUFTED TITMOUSE	61	4	120	34	50	12	36	13	66	56	99	107	185	3	93	9	50	103	44	54	25	15
WHITE-BR. NUTHATCH	34	2	12	6	6	1	3	5	26	8	39	53	21		5		7		2	25	15	8
RED-BR. NUTHATCH	1		1		1	*		4	3	1	5	52	14		3		4	2	2	4	5	5
BROWN CREEPER	2		2	1	2		1	2		7	12	9	27		16	1	6	10	5	2	1	1
HOUSE WREN																		1				
WINTER WREN			1		2	*	1		2	8		1	6		5	2	2	1		1	10	1
BEWICK'S WREN															2			3				
CAROLINA WREN	4		6	4	8	2	8	6	5	29	9	32	60		35	4	10	93	6	4	11	2
MOCKINGBIRD	4	14	28	12	17	11	39	45	2	31	20	34	123	4	29	4	15	74	39	4	1	1
GRAY CATBIRD																		2	2			
BROWN THRASHER	1	1	1	2	6	4		1			1	3	6		1			3			7	
AMERICAN ROBIN	5	50	34	80	5		51	257	296	22	182	311	668	52	93	426	*	489	63	4		3
HERMIT THRUSH	3				2				3	1	4	5			2	1		1			9	
EASTERN BLUEBIRD	10	2		1	24	*	6	11	26	41	36	100	14	5	118	39	35	149	17	61	3	
GOLDEN-CR. KINGLET	10		3		2		3	1	8	2	71	59	12	3	32	4	6	23		5	3	2
RUBY-CR. KINGLET	7	8	1			1		3	4	1	2				2			2	1		1	
CEDAR WAXWING	7	38	8			*		8	279		210	84	213	19	56	66	4	27	8		19	
LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE	1	3	2	2	1		7	1		1	2	3		2	4		1	3	6	2	29	

STARLING	110000	200	1285	733	275	116	575	104	19	1939	1098	2657	1409	545	2092	412	300000	3340	1881	298		250
YELLOW-R. WARBLER	20	1	2	1	2	1	2	44	251	14	234	261	29	*	50	40	12	58			*	
ORANGE-CR. WARBLER	1																					
COMMON YELLOWTHROAT											1											
PALM WARBLER															2			*	6			
HOUSE SPARROW	63		591	278	270	68	425	123	21	103	135	459	643	116	202	37	11	386	647	125	57	
E. MEADOWLARK	63	3	70	2	5	14	84	34		39	29	138	30	10	2	38	79	29	355	7		
RED-W. BLACKBIRD	26	24	22170	29	1	1	100	20		110			174		33		25000	1	65		264	
RUSTY BLACKBIRD					1								222						195			
BREWER'S BLACKBIRD			100																			
COMMON GRACKLE	7	35	254	96	40	150	2	2		6330	1	6	73	1	15	250	45000	14	67		30	170
BR.-HEADED COWBIRD	2	36	251	75				10		200	12		106	1	151		5000		121		4	
CARDINAL	43	200	254	83	149	48	62	95	31	91	147	266	840	13	306	65	91	294	222	86	67	18
EVENING GROSBEAK													5								3	
PURPLE FINCH	2				2		5	5	76	98	40	67	20	1	29	83	35	37	4	15	15	5
HOUSE FINCH													8		3		3	30	27			
PINE SISKIN	5										5	34	81		32			15	2	1	2	
AMER. GOLDFINCH	13		8	16	50	1	10	32	28	57	70	77	208	5	293	26	61	209	88	81	47	15
RUFOUS-S. TOWHEE	10	4	4	9	10	12	6	11	11	21	37	29	56		27	9	17	12	7	1	31	2
SAVANNAH SPARROW								1			2				1							
DARK-EYED JUNCO	384	300	110	35	89	64	48	78	235	37	386	441	673	31	705	92	92	348	88	216	60	42
TREE SPARROW	6		31	*	37						13	1	13		1		1		2	11		
FIELD SPARROW	11	11	10	2	14	4	15	30	7	51	34	25	43	2	18	4	134	65	32	20	13	
WHITE-CR. SPARROW		175	16	11	136	3	6	7	35	4	15	46	62	8	20		6	17	64	11		5
WHITE-THR. SPARROW	201	50	47	23	235	30	20	109	43	202	133	157	808	*	159	31	52	279	51	11	127	18
FOX SPARROW	7	2	4		1			20	3		1	7	5		16			1	3		2	
CHIPPING SPARROW													1					3				
LINCOLN'S SPARROW		3																				
SWAMP SPARROW	6		12		3	3		5		24	24	7	66		7		*	5		2	3	
SONG SPARROW	29	4	5	118	60	25	23	102	11	120	132	115	607	6	167	27	77	205	60	14	89	7
LAPLAND LONGSPUR											2		11									
DAY OF COUNT	D19	D27	D20	D28	D19	D27	J3	D19	D20	D27	D27	J2	D20	D27	D19	J2	D20	D26	D19	J2	D20	J2
SPECIES	78	46	67	47	57	48	44	59	43	58	62	60	91	40	73	43	62	76	73	47	50	46
INDIVIDUALS	114596	1403	37773	3318	1886	1245	2271	1783	1827	10419	4162	7060	13868	1336	7459	2065	376790	12306	16573	1634	1243	732
OBSERVERS	14	3	22	12	10	4	6	7	8	5	13	11	28	5	25	6	9	28	25	10	6	3

*Indicates the species was recorded but not on the count day.

wind SW, 0-5 m.p.h. Twenty-eight observers in 11 parties. Total party hours 90 (49 on foot, 41 by car). Total party miles 375 (45 on foot, 330 by car). Total species 91; total individuals 13,868.

The Caspian Terns are a first count record, well seen by the three observers in the party. House Finches, although a first count record, are now resident in small numbers locally, having bred for the first time here in 1981. The Chipping Sparrow has been at the Palmer-Ball feeder for three weeks. During the week a Western Grebe was observed on the Ohio River. — Alan Barron, Rosemary Bauman, Donald Blackburn, Kathryn Clay, Katherine Colburn, Bess Douthitt, Violet and W. F. Jackson, F. H. Krull, Mr. and Mrs. F. X. Krull, John Krull, Burt Monroe, Jr. (co-compiler), Dorothy Muntan, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., James Pasikowski, Martha Pike, Robert Quaife, Lene Rauth, Virginia Rommel, Carl Schultz, Helga Schutte, Mabel Slack, Larry Smith, Anne Stamm (co-compiler), F. W. Stamm, Midge Susie, Mary Vance (Beckham Bird Club).

SHELBYVILLE (center ¾ mile south of U.S. 60 and Grist Creek Lake on Ky. Hwy. 714.) Habitat: farmland, fallowland, suburban, wooded, and grassland. Dec. 27; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky cloudy during morning and clear in the afternoon; temp. 33-43°; wind W, 10-20 m.p.h. Five observers in one party. Total party hours ten (1 on foot, 9 by car). Total party miles 111 (1 on foot, 110 by car). Total species 40; total individuals 1,336. — Christy Brown, John K. Brown, Todd Brown, W. H. Brown (compiler), Chris Martin, Bud Woods, Martha Woods.

FRANKFORT (center at junction of U.S. 127 and Ky. Hwy. 1900.) Habitat as described in 1972. Dec. 19; 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 6-20°; wind WSW, 5-15 m.p.h. Water mostly frozen. Twenty-five observers in 12 parties. Total party hours 69 (50 on foot, 19 by car). Total party miles 334 (39 on foot, 295 by car). Total species 73; total individuals 7,459.

This is the highest species count ever for Frankfort and is due in large part to good coverage and increasingly sophisticated observers. High numbers were found for Canada Geese, Eastern Bluebird, Dark-eyed Junco and hawk species. Most duck species and meadowlarks were low in number. Good finds included the American Woodcock, Bewick's Wren, Palm Warbler, House Finch and Savannah Sparrow. — Bob Altman, John, Todd and W. H. Brown, Stuart Butler, Keith Camburn, Laura and Rose Canon, Manton Cornett, Dennis Coskren, Peggy Derryberry, James Durell, Bill and Charles Grayson, Scott Hankla, Virginia Honaker, Howard Jones (compiler), Cathy Justis, Rae McEntyre, Robert Morris, Glenn Raleigh, Dan Van Norman, Glenn Wells, Jim Williams, Tim Williams.

KLEBER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (center and habitat as described in 1972.) Jan. 2; 7:15 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Sky cloudy to partly cloudy; temp. 27-47°; wind E, 5-14 m.p.h. No precipitation; ponds frozen, other water open. Six observers in four parties. Total party hours 21 (15 on foot, 6 by car). Total party miles 120 (15 on foot, 105 by car). Total species 43; total individuals 2,065.

Ducks and sparrows were scarce. The three Marsh Hawks and the Red-breasted Mergansers were considered as good finds. — Peggy Derry-

berry, James Durell, Jim Gabhart, Howard Jones (compiler), Tim Towles, Jim Williams.

RICHMOND (center ¾ mile north of intersection of Bobtown Road and the Kingston-Berea Road.) Habitat: fencerows and roadsides 40%; woodland 15%; pasture and open fields 40%; reservoirs and lakes 5%. Dec. 20; 6:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 6-26°; wind 5-15 m.p.h. Nine observers in three parties. Total party hours 29 (11 on foot, 18 by car). Total party miles 247 (15 on foot, 232 by car). Total species 62; total individuals 376,000.

The blackbird roost is located SW of town just off Interstate 75. It was estimated at 375,000 birds, 80% of which were Starlings. — Bob Altman (compiler), John Fuller, Stan Fuller, Ginger Murphy, Bill Romme, Janet Romme, Carol Schuler, Nancy SFerra, Tim Towles.

LEXINGTON (center and habitat as described previously). Dec. 26; 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 29-47°; wind SE, 5-10 m.p.h. Twenty-eight observers in 12 parties. Total party hours 83 (32 on foot, 51 by car). Total party miles 539 (31 on foot, 508 by car). Total species 76; total individuals 12,306. — Bob Altman, Roger Barbour, Rose and Laura Canon, Manton Cornett, Dennis Coskren, Ron Duncan, Lyda Feck, Doris Ferm, Reid Freeman, Jim Gabhart, Betty Maxson, Bob Morris, Charlotte Parsons, Glenn Raleigh, Algie, Jerry, and Virginia Reece, Robert and Elberta Reid, Rick Schwein, Louis Shain, Marie Sutton, Mary Towles, Andy and Marion Uterhart, Clara Wieland, Jim Williams (compiler).

DANVILLE (center County Courthouse.) Habitat: residential 6%, parks 2%, woodland 40%, farmland 30%, streamside 17%, lakeside 5%. Dec. 19; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 7-20°; wind S, 5-10 m.p.h., unusually cold. Twenty-five observers in nine parties. Total party hours 52 (18 on foot, 34 by car). Total party miles 481 (143 on foot, 338 by car). Total species 73; total individuals 16,573. — Chauncey Alcock, Joe Amburgey, Erni Baird, Bill Bramwell, Betty Bramwell, Bob Bright, Katie Bright, Harry Caldwell, Molly Caldwell (compiler), Martha Foster, Tobin Foster, John Gower, Michael Hamm, West Hill, Dorothy Belle Hill, Frank Heck, Edna Heck, Bill Kemper, Fred Loetcher, Naomi Loetcher, Dan Moran, John B. Nichols, Les Reid, Joe Russell, Betty Ullrich.

BURLINGTON (center and habitat as described in 1975.) Jan. 2; 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky overcast; temp. 23-41°; wind SE, 10-20 m.p.h. Lakes and ponds frozen, Ohio River open. Ten observers in five parties. Total party hours 28 (18 on foot, 10 by car). Total party miles 262 (11 on foot, 251 by car). Total species 47; total individuals 1,634.

Notable by their absence were Killdeer, Bobwhite, Pileated Woodpeckers, and all blackbird species. Also in low numbers were American Robins and Rufous-sided Towhees. The high numbers of Eastern Bluebirds were exceptional as was the small flock of Common Goldeneyes found on the Ohio River by the Mike Andrews party. — Mike Andrews, Bruce Cabot, Ed Kennedy, Gerri Kennedy, Laura Kob, Linda Kob, Ed Larson, Lee McNeely (compiler), Lynda McNeely, Cricket Riehlman.

PINE MOUNTAIN SETTLEMENT SCHOOL (center and habitat as described in 1980.) Dec. 20; 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. -2 to 24°; wind calm. Six observers in two parties, with four at feeders. Total

party hours 23 (12 on foot, 6 by car). Total party miles 61 (16 on foot, 45 by car). Total species 50; total individuals 1,243.

The wild food crop was excellent; high numbers of Blue Jays reflect the unusually heavy beechnut crop. Several common species were in low numbers or absent. The sharp drop in temperature apparently influenced the bird numbers. — Stephen Batson, Julious Begley, Liz Bradshaw, Mark Dalton (compiler), Afton Garrison, John Garrison, Neville Garrison, Burton Rogers, Jack Whitfield, May Williams.

ROWAN COUNTY (center Morehead, Cave Run Lake, Minor E. Clark Fish Hatchery, Green Valley Acres, Clay Lick Campground, Rock Fork.) Habitat as described in 1981. Jan. 2; 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky in morning mostly cloudy and in afternoon mostly clear; temp. 28-42°; wind 3-10 m.p.h. Three observers in two parties. Total party hours 13 (7 on foot, 6 by car). Total party miles 51 (3 on foot, 48 by car). Total species 46; total individuals 767.

Cave Run Lake was devoid of waterfowl. Birds were very inactive through the morning hours. — Fred Busroe, Joanna Busroe, Katie Busroe, Margaret Heaslip.

GRAYSON LAKE, CARTER COUNTY (center Grayson Lake dam site.) Habitat: lake and shore, open fields, and mixed hardwood forest. Jan. 1; 9:00 a.m. to 2:45 p.m. and 4:00 p.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 30-42°; wind NW, 10 m.p.h. Two observers in one party. Total party hours 7 (6 on foot, 1 by car). Total party miles 11 (5 on foot, 6 by car). Total species 31; total individuals 644.

Grayson Lake is ten feet below normal water level — which may explain why no Canada Geese have overwintered here this year. The count included 40 Mallard, one Ruffed Grouse, four Pileated Woodpecker, six Eastern Bluebird, 30 Evening Grosbeak, 108 Dark-eyed Junco, and 12 House Finch. — James H. McCormick, Martha McCormick (co-compilers).

HAZARD (center Junction of Hwy. 28 and Kentucky River.) Habitat: mostly wooded hillsides, hillside farmland, and lake and stream banks. Dec. 26; 9:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 32-50°; wind minimal. Two observers in one party. Total party hours 16 (14 on foot, 2 by car). Total party miles 30 (5 on foot, 25 by car). Total species 24; total individuals 176.

The count included no waterfowl, four hawks, one Ruffed Grouse, and a Screech Owl. A Snowy Owl was reported in a nearby area. — Deborah Spencer, Don Spencer (compiler).

CUMBERLAND GAP (center three miles east of Meldrum, as described in 1981.) Habitat: forest 35%, residential 25%, reservoirs 15%, brushy clearings 15%, and open fields 10%. Jan. 2; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky mostly clear to partly cloudy; temp. 27-58°; wind NNE-NNW, 3-15 m.p.h. Eight observers in two parties. Total party hours 13 (5 on foot, 8 by car). Total party miles 93 (4 on foot, 89 by car). Total species 38; total individuals 428.

This is the first year that the Catbird has been reported from the Cumberland Gap count. Also, Yellow-rumped Warblers were much more common than usual. They were observed at several locations feeding on the abundant crop of poison ivy berries in the area. Among the species reported on this count were seven Mallard, one Ruffed Grouse, three Killdeer, 14 White-breasted Nuthatch, and 21 Yellow-rumped Warbler. — E. J.

Carr, Richard Cassell, Ross Chasteen, Ron Day, Chris Endris, Danny and Maisie Hoskins, Barry Howard (compiler), Wilderness Trail Chapter of the Kentucky Society of Natural History.

— H. E. Shadowen, Biology Department, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, 42101.

THE FALL MIGRATION SEASON, 1981

Anne L. Stamm

The weather in the fall of 1981 was somewhat similar throughout the state: mild, warm, and very dry. Drought conditions prevailed in much of the state. Snow was absent except for a few flurries on November 20.

The majority of the observers felt that the season was rather dull and uninteresting, yet in some areas a few unusual species appeared in the latter part of the period. The heavy migration of ducks and geese was delayed. Hawk flights were just fair. Shorebird migration was average. One interesting highlight, however, was the 32 White-rumped Sandpipers at Hamlin. The Long-billed Dowitcher was reported from three counties. The warbler migration was spread out over a long period, but was "much better than average" at Danville. The best migration dates were: September 4, 15-16, 24, 30, and October 3 and 4. Despite the warm fall some species were early, but many migrants, as expected, lingered later than normal. Reports of rarities and unusual species included: Old-squaw, Iceland Gull, Thayer's Gull, and Groove-billed Ani.

Loons through Herons — A Common Loon made its first appearance at the Falls of the Ohio on October 26, four there October 27 (LR); 35 along the Ohio River at Louisville, November 10 (BPB); 10 at Lake Pewee, November 11 (JH); nine at Dale Hollow Lake, November 22 (RS); few at Lexington (DC); none on Lake Cumberland, near Somerset, this fall (JEl); but nine were still present on the lake between Scotts Creek and Clay Lick, December 1 (FB). Horned Grebe were thought to be "plentiful" at Dale Hollow Lake on November 22 (RS). Pied-billed Grebe were scarce at Lake Pewee where they are usually fairly common (JH); only small numbers on the Ohio River in western Boone County (LMc); "almost no grebes" at Lexington (DC), but one at Natural Bridge State Park, September 12 was of interest (EG). Only one to five Double-crested Cormorants were observed from October 4 to November 26 at three locations: Carlisle County, Ballard and Jefferson counties (m.ob). Great Blue Heron were not as numerous as last fall, but were reported from Hamlin (17), September 10 (JEr); eight at East Bottoms, September 19 (LMc); two at Falls of the Ohio, October 22 (BS,DD); 11 at Prospect, November 26 (JK, FK); and seven at Green River Lake, Adair County, October 25 (JEl). A Green Heron at the Falls of the Ohio, October 22, was a fairly late straggler (BS, DD). Approximately 150 Little Blue Heron at Ballard Waterfowl Management Area (hereafter BWMA) on August 30 was worthy of note — majority were immatures (BPB and D. Ebel). A Cattle Egret at Mayking, Letcher County, October 27, was exceptional (FC). It was good to have Great Egrets at the Falls of the Ohio again: two to eleven from August 13 to October 20 (LR) and two still there on October 22 (BS, DD); one at Hamlin, August 13 (JEr); two at Clark Fish Hatchery, September 25 and one there September 30 (FB). The Black-crowned Night Heron was last recorded at the Falls of the Ohio on October 10 (LR).

Waterfowl — Four Whistling Swan (2 adults and 2 immatures), rare transients in Kentucky, were seen at the Falls of the Ohio, November 10 (LR, m.ob). The majority of the observers felt that the waterfowl migration was poor. Ducks and geese were down at Ballard County Refuge from what was present during November last year (TY). The first big push came at BWMA on October 13 when 2,000 Canada Geese and 1,000 Snow Geese were recorded; numbers increased slowly until mid-November when 7,500 Canada Geese and 1,500 Snows were present, but by the end of the month 12,000 Canada and 3,000 Snows had arrived (TY). Mallard and Black Ducks were reported in small numbers in central Kentucky, although Blacks were about normal at Cave Hill Cemetery (S). What seemed unusual was a female Mallard leading eight young across a busy four-lane highway at Fort Wright on September 10 and blocking traffic for several blocks (EG). The date seems unusually late for young. Few American Widgeon were seen. Wood Ducks, however, were present in good numbers. Most species of ducks were reported but were in small numbers and late in arriving. The only sizable flocks of ducks were the 585 Ring-necked at Lake Pewee, November 11, and the mixed flock of 20,000 at BWMA, November 2-13. However, the population at BWMA had dropped to 5,000 on November 30 (TY). A few species of special interest included: one Old-squaw at Louisville, November 21 (BM); a Surf Scoter at Falls of the Ohio, November 10 (AB, BPB, and others), another on the Ohio River at Louisville, possibly the same bird, November 13 (DS). The high count of Ruddy Ducks at Lake Pewee was 97 on November 18 (JH). Seven Common Mergansers at the Falls of the Ohio on November 20 (AB) and a number of them at Dale Hollow Lake, November 22 were of interest (RS).

Hawks — Turkey Vultures were much in evidence during the period with some migratory flocks noted: 20 on September 18 along I-75 from Georgetown to Florence, 19 in western Boone County, September 19 (LMc); 60 at Hamlin on September 22 (JEr); 24 between Louisville and Florence, October 2 (LMc); 200 to 300 going to a roost about one mile south of the Slade Mountain Parkway Interchange, November 7 (HJ); and a flock of 33, three miles north of Munfordville, November 18 (S, FS). Also, 20+ Black Vultures were seen at Green River Lake, Adair County, October 18 (JEl) and two in Rowan County, September 25 (FB). The 12 Mississippi Kites, August 30 along the levee in Fulton County were noteworthy (BPB with D. Ebel). Sharp-shinned Hawk migration was observed in Bell County, September 20, where 37 were counted (RA); one to three were reported from Septembr 6 to October 3 in Boone, Boyle, Jefferson and Harlan counties (m.ob.); and one "attacking Blue Jays" at East Bend, Boone County, August 29 (LMc). Eight Cooper's Hawks were reported from seven locations. Red-tailed Hawks were in fair numbers in most areas of the state; five to ten observed migrating during October in Boone County (LMc). Two Red-shouldered Hawks were present at Danville, November 14, where they have been scarce for sometime (FL); other sightings included several at Hamlin (JEr), Madisonville (JH) and Pine Mountain Settlement School (MD). Broad-winged Hawk migration was first noted in Bell County, September 13, with 125 counted in a three-hour period (RA); 10 in northeast Jefferson County, September 17 (S, FS); seven in west Boone County, September 19 (LMc); and 146 over Surrey Hill Farm, northeast Jefferson County, September 19 (BPB). Few observers reported the Rough-legged Hawk: three at Danville, November

14 (FL); one at Cumberland County, November 22 (RS) and two in Fayette County, November 24 (JK). Bald Eagles were observed as early as October 19 when eight were seen along the Ohio in Meade County (1 adult, 7 immature) (DS); one immature at Barren River Reservoir, November 21, the first there in a number of years (RS); two adults and one immature at Laurel Lake, November 19 (*fide* RH); and one adult and one immature at Dale Hollow Lake, Cumberland County, November 22 (RS). Marsh Hawks were reported in low numbers — one to two birds in five locations. Ospreys were first reported on September 10, with one bird at Hamlin (JEr); two at Fishing Creek, near Pulaski County Park, September 17-21 (JEl); another at Hamlin, September 22 (JEr); two at Green River Lake, October 18 (JEl); and at least one bird from September to November 30 at Cave Run Lake (FB). Two Peregrine Falcons were reported: an immature at the Falls of the Ohio, September 9 (BPB with M. Medley); and an adult at Cumberland Gap, September 13 (RA with V. Murphy). American Kestrel were doing well in most areas.

Bobwhites through Coots — A big population of Bobwhite was noted in West Kentucky — nine covey in one-half day, November 27 at Hamlin (JEr). Sandhill Crane migration was exciting and witnessed by a number of observers: 22 birds over Hays Kennedy Park, Louisville, November 6 (DN); approximately 925 on the same date passed over Surrey Hill Farm in flocks of 300, 237, 140, 120, 125, and 6 (BPB); a flock of 40 followed by another with 115 moving south near mouth of Gadie Creek, Menifee County, November 7 (HJ); 150 to 200 over Guist Lake, Shelby County (WB); 51 in a flock at Danville, followed by eight birds (FL); and 30 over Louisville (Wallace Gullich *fide* BPB) all on November 8; and about 100 to 150 feeding on a farm, three miles north of Shelbyville on November 17-18 (WB *et al*). The count of American Coots on Lake Pewee reached 925 on November 11 (JH) and was the largest number reported.

Shorebirds — The shorebird migration was about average, although a few rare transients showed up. The Piping Plover at Hamlin, August 4, 5 and 8 was the only one reported (JEr), American Golden Plovers arrived later than normal and few were reported: one at Hamlin, October 8 (JEr); and one to three at Falls of the Ohio from September 9-October 25 (BPB). Black-bellied Plovers were recorded only from the Falls of the Ohio, with two birds on September 9 and on October 25 to November 14 (BPB); last observed there on November 19 (AB). Ruddy Turnstones appeared at only Kentucky Lake and Falls of the Ohio, with two at the former site and one at the latter (JEr, BPB, respectively). Four to eight Spotted Sandpipers were seen at Hamlin, August 4-10 (JEr) and one as late as October 21 at the Falls of the Ohio (BS). Greater Yellowlegs lingered until November 11 at Lake Pewee (JH) and November 24 at Clark Fish Hatchery, Rowan County (FB). The 32 White-rumped Sandpipers at Hamlin, September 10, were exceptional (JEr). One to four Baird's Sandpipers were reported from six locations: Kentucky Lake, August 13 — earliest (JEr); Falls of the Ohio (LR, BS, BPB); Crescent Hill Reservoir (JEl); below Dam #53 (BPB); Mississippi River, Carlisle County (BPB, AB); and the latest at Green River Lake, Adair County, October 25 (JEl). A single Dunlin at Hamlin on August 4 was unusually early (JEr); 41 at Green River Lake, October 25 may be the first record for that area (JEl); one to seven during October at the Falls of the Ohio (LR); approximately

25 at Falls of the Ohio, October 25-November 3 (BPB, AB); with the latest there November 10 (AB); one at BWMA, October 4 (AB, BPB). Short-billed Dowitchers were reported from two locations: Crescent Hill Reservoir on August 7 (LR) and October 18 (DN); Dam #53, August 30 (BPB, D. Ebel). The real rarities of the season were the four records for *Long-billed Dowitchers:* one on October 4 along Mississippi River in Carlisle County and two in BWMA, same date (AB, BPB); one at Green River Lake, Adair County, October 18, another there (not same plumage), October 25 (JEl); all birds identified by call notes. Stilt Sandpipers were reported from the following locations: two at Crescent Hill Reservoir, August 29 (JEl); five at Dam #53, August 30 (BPB); two at Jonathan Creek embayment, Marshall County, September 15; four there on the 19th (MM) and *eight* on the 27th (C. Peterson *fide* MM). These western Kentucky records are of great interest since few Stilt Sandpipers are reported from Ballard or Marshall Counties. A Semipalmated Sandpiper at Green River Lake on October 18 was an interesting local record (JEl). A Western Sandpiper made its first appearance on August 13 at Hamlin (JEr); a peak of seven birds at Falls of the Ohio, August 15-17 (BPB); approximately 20 were below Dam #53, August 30 (BPB); and one at Jonathan Creek, September 17 (MM). Three Buff-breasted Sandpipers, rare transients in the state, were seen at the Falls of the Ohio, August 27 (AB, BPB) and one at Jonathan Creek, September 10 (MM). Few Sanderlings appeared this fall: one to two at Hamlin, August 22 and 25 (JEr) and one at Louisville, September 26 (BPB) and two in Carlisle County, October 4 (BPB, AB). The two Wilson Phalaropes at Jonathan Creek, September 15, were noteworthy (MM).

Gulls and Terns — *A Thayer's Gull* in first year plumage remained in the Falls of the Ohio area from November 21-23 (BPB, AB, m.ob.). Also, an *Iceland Gull* in second year plumage was at The Falls of the Ohio on November 26 (LR). Ring-billed Gulls appeared early at Hamlin, August 4 and 5 (JEr); numbers were low in the Louisville area. Few Bonaparte's Gulls were present, with the earliest on August 28 at the Falls of the Ohio (LR). One to three Little Terns were recorded between August 5 and 25 at Hamlin (JEr). Caspian Terns were present at Hamlin from August 4 to 25, with a high of 27 on August 22 (JEr); a few at Falls of the Ohio, with the latest there on October 21 (BS).

Cuckoos through Woodpeckers — A Black-billed Cuckoo at Hamlin on October 19 was rather late (JEr). A *Grove-billed Ani* at Lexington, October 22-23 was an unexpected find, and established the second record for the state (TH, BM, MS, RM *et al*). Common Nighthawks began migrating on August 15, with a high of 200+ on August 31, near Petersburg, Boone County (LMc); smaller groups were noted on September 3 in south Louisville (BS) and September 28 in northeast Louisville (FS). Chimney Swifts were migrating on September 9 at Fern Creek where about 300 were seen entering a chimney; numbers increased during the month to at least 500 and were last seen there September 30 (LSa, DPS); 300 also over a chimney at Somerset, September 18 (JEl). A Yellow-bellied Sapsucker was early at Clark Park, Louisville, September 19 and tied the local record of 1965 and 1967 (BS); another was fairly early at Danville, September 22 (FL); other sightings occurred in October.

Flycatchers through Swallows — Eastern Phoebes were fairly common in Clark Park, September 15 (BS). An Eastern Kingbird at Pulaski County Park on September 18-19 was a fairly late straggler (JEl). Two Yellow-bellied Flycatchers at Louisville, August 26, were reported (BPB). Only two observers mentioned the Olive-sided Flycatcher: one at Big Bone State Park, August 26 (LMc) and one at Danville, September 16 (FL). The migration of Tree Swallows continued over a fairly long period of time: a few at Somerset with a large flock of Chimney Swifts and a few Cliff Swallows, September 18 (JEl); about 500 in Fulton County, October 4 (BPB); seven at Falls of the Ohio, October 20 (LR); 200+ at Lexington outskirts, October 23 (S, FS); and last recorded at Green River Lake on October 25 (JEl). Approximately 1,000 Rough-winged Swallows were noted in Fulton County, October 4 (BPB). Two Barn Swallows at Green River Lake, October 18 were fairly late stragglers (JEl). A Purple Martin at Fort Wright, September 2, was considered late for that northern area (EG).

Blue Jays through Thrushes — The Blue Jay flight along Pine Mountain was heavier than normal, "numbers were placed well up into the thousands" (*fide* MD); also; in the Cave Run Lake area an "abnormally large number" was sighted (FB). The majority of Blue Jays passed southward during the last two weeks of October, but a few small flocks were noted migrating over the Louisville area September 20 and 26 (BBC, BS). A flock of 200 or more Common Crows was noted in a field at Versailles, October 23 (FS, S). Red-breasted Nuthatches were fairly widespread. A Brown Creeper was studied at Audubon State Park, Henderson, August 3 — a very early date (MB *fide* AP). A House Wren at Fort Wright on October 25 was a late straggler (EG). Winter Wrens arrived later than normal and were considered more numerous at Glasgow (RS); six at Creason Park, Louisville, October 8 (JEl); and four at Clark Park, October 22 (DD). The Carolina Wren was reported as increasing in some sections and is slowly staging a comeback. Single Long-billed Marsh Wrens were recorded for three locations in the Louisville area and one in Hamlin, with the earliest at the Louisville Water Company basins, September 29 (BPB) and the latest below McAlpine Dam, November 23 (AB). One to four Short-billed Marsh Wrens sighted on Surrey Hill Farm from September 17 to October 20 (BPB) and three in Hickman County, October 4 (BPB). A group of 30 Brown Thrashers were counted in Clark Park, September 16 (BS). Large concentrations of American Robins were found in Clark and Creason Parks, September 16 and 19 (BS) and in northeast Louisville, September 20-27 (S), while a congregation of 300+ remained in Ramsey Creek, Cave Run Lake, from November 1-3 (FB). Some indication of the migration of the Swainson's Thrush was apparent at Clark Park, September 15, when 15 moved about in a group (BS). A Veery at Louisville, September 9 (BS) and one at Danville, September 18 (FL) were fairly early for their respective localities. Eastern Bluebirds have increased slightly in some sections of the state, particularly in Calloway (JEr), Oldham (S), Boyle (FL), Lincoln and Pulaski (JEl) counties.

Pipits through Vireos — Small flocks of Water Pipits were present at Louisville, October 24 and November 1 (BPB) and 33 at Eubank, November 7 (JEl). Cedar Waxwings were in good numbers; at Fern Creek a flock fed with American Robins on crabapples during November (S). Logger-

head Shrikes were reported as singles from Adair, Boyle, Lincoln, Oldham, and Pulaski counties, with "fair numbers" in Calloway County. (m.ob.). Single Philadelphia Vireos were reported at Danville, September 24 (FL); Surrey Hill Farm, September 17 (BPB); Creason Park, October 8 (JEl) and at Happy Hollow Farm, Oldham County, October 10 (BBC).

Warblers — Comments from the observers indicated that the best warbler migration dates were September 27, 30 and October 2. Some species of warblers arrived earlier than expected or in larger numbers than normally encountered; they also passed through over a long period. Some of the early arrivals included the following: Tennessee Warbler at Eubank, August 20 (JEl); Orange-crowned at Louisville, October 2 and 5 (BPB); Black-throated Blue at Louisville, August 28 (BPB). A Swainson's Warbler at Louisville, October 9 was extraordinary — only fall record for Louisville area (BS). Some fairly late dates were: Orange-crowned at Lexington, October 24 and at Green River Lake, October 25 (JEl); Black-throated Blue (3) at Hamlin, October 8 (JEr); Yellow-throated Warbler, October 4 in Carlisle County (BPB); Blackpoll at Louisville, October 11-12 — photo available to show plumage and under-tail coverts (BPB with B. Anderson & J. Caruso); Palm Warbler at Louisville, November 4 (BPB) and at Lexington, November 17 (DC); American Redstart, October 28 at Louisville (BS, DD). Though usually rare in fall, Cape May was found in numbers from one to six at Eubank from September 20-October 5 (JEl); four at Danville, September 30, and three there October 3 (FL).

Blackbirds — A Northern (Baltimore) Oriole was heard "singing rather well" at Danville, October 3 (FL). Three blackbird roosts were reported: several hundred thousand, mainly Common Grackles and Starlings, gathered on a hillside of cedars and pines, east of Somerset (JEl); another estimated at six million birds utilized an area at Vaughn Mill Road and Outer Loop, Jefferson County, from mid-October to late November (BM); and one with an estimated one million birds about one mile west of Stanton on November 7 (HJ).

Fringillids — A few Indigo Buntings were rather late stragglers: one at Louisville, October 29 (BS, DD); and one east of Hopkinsville, October 4 (PH). A flock of Evening Grosbeaks at Pine Mountain, September 27 provided an early record (RC). Purple Finches were in low numbers throughout the state. A few House Finches were present at Creason Park throughout the period (AB, JEl, BBC); occasional visits at Louisville and Lexington feeding stations (MSu, HF, RM); 200 at Somerset, November 16 (JEl) and 12 near Albany, November 28 (RSe). Pine Siskins arrived later than normal and were reported from only Hamlin (JEr), Mammoth Cave National Park (BPB) and Louisville (DN, BPB, S), with the greatest number at Cave Hill Cemetery (S). A Red Crossbill at Surrey Hill Farm, November 2 (BPB) and two there November 11 (AB, BPB) were the only ones reported. A LeConte's Sparrow at Louisville, October 25 was an interesting find (AB, BPB). Single Henslow's Sparrows were found in Louisville, October 8 (BPB with L. Sanders) and October 20 (BPB, AB with M. Medley). Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Juncos were late in arriving and numbers were low. White-throated Sparrows and White-crowned were also late and the latter was down in numbers in some sections.

Reports for the Winter Season (December through February) should reach the writer by March 7, 1982.

Contributors — Robert Altman (RA), Alan Barron (AB), Mike Brown (MB), W. H. Brown (WB), Frances Carter (FC), Richard Cassell (RC), Dennis Coskren (DC), Mark Dalton (MD), Don Devitt (DD), Jackie Elmore (JEl), Joe Tom Erwin (JEr), Helen Fisher (HF), Ed Groneman (EG), James W. Hancock (JH), Richard Hines (RH), Terry Hobbs (TH), Phillip Hyatt (PH), Frank Krull (FK), John Krull (JK), Frederick Loetscher (FL), Lee McNeely (LMc), Michael Miller (MM), Robert Morris (RM), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (BM), Doxy Noonan (DN), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BPB), Albert Powell (AP), Lene Rauth (LR), Linda Salmon (LSa), Roger Selvidge (RSe), Bernice Shannon (BS), Anne L. Stamm (S), F. W. Stamm (FS), Russell Starr (RS), Margaret Sullivan (MSu), Donald Summerfield (DS), Donna Sumpter (DPS), Marie Sutton (MS), Tom Young (TY). Other abbreviations — Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Many observers (m.ob.).

— 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222.

FIELD NOTES

A GROVE-BILLED ANI IN LEXINGTON

On October 22, 1981, at about 3:00 p.m. I was walking in an abandoned field near my home, in southwest Lexington, Kentucky. I noticed a large black bird perched about six feet from the ground in a small mimosa tree. Its silhouette (long tail, hunch-shouldered posture, and large bill) was markedly different from a Common Grackle *(Quiscalus quiscula)*, the only local bird it could have been, so I walked slowly toward it for a better look. The bird was very tame and allowed me to come within 15 to 20 feet. At the distance I could easily identify it as an Ani *(Crotophaga* sp.), but in the dim light of total overcast and without binoculars I couldn't be sure whether it was a Groove-billed *(C. sulcirostris)* or Smooth-billed Ani *(C. ani)*. At this point some people came by and frightened the bird, which flew to some nearby trees. I hurried home for my binoculars and a bird book.

Upon returning I located the Ani in a tree and watched it hop and fly from branch to branch until it again flew out into the field. This portion of the field had been mowed during the summer and only a few grasses and plants taller than six inches remained standing, so I had an unobstructed view.

I slowly moved toward the Ani which again appeared indifferent to my approach. In fact, as it fed, hopping and fluttering after insects, it came so close that I could no longer focus my binoculars on it. The light, however, was so poor that I still could not distinguish grooves on the bill, and thus could not positively identify it.

Because its range is nearer to Kentucky, I guessed that it might have been a Smooth-billed Ani, but further investigation showed it to be the Groove-billed Ani, normally found in Texas, which is prone to wander.

The next day was clear and sunny and the bird was indeed identified as a Groove-billed Ani by Dr. Burt L. Monroe, Jr., chairman of the Biology Department, University of Louisville.

Although a number of people saw the bird, it was not found after October 23. The temperature dropped to the low twenties on both the 22nd and 23rd, and the bird may have perished from the cold or moved elsewhere. — Terry Hobbs, 219 Norway Street, Lexington, Kentucky 40503.

NEWS AND VIEWS

TWO NEW NATURE CENTERS IN KENTUCKY

Mr. Joe Ford of Owensboro reports the establishment of a new Nature Center in Owensboro. The center is under the direction of K.O.S. member Bert Powell and is a 14-acre area located at the intersection of the Wendell Ford Expressway and Highway 60 West. Over 60 species of birds have already been counted in the nature center, and several other animal species have been observed. Trails and two ponds have been constructed, and food plots, bird nesting boxes, feeding stations, benches and blinds, and trail markings will be developed.

A nature center of similar size is being established in Bowling Green, only one mile from the Western Kentucky campus. A fence has been placed around the area to exclude vehicles, and woodchip trails and a photography blind have already been constructed. Bowling Green birders have been disheartened in recent years with the destruction of the transient lakes as birding centers, but are encouraged by the establishment of this nature center.

1982 SPRING MEETING

The K.O.S. Spring Meeting is scheduled for Rough River State Park on the weekend of April 16. Camping facilities are available.

SPRING BIRD COUNT

K.O.S. member Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. is encouraging those who are interested to participate in this third statewide spring bird count on Saturday, May 8. Twenty-four counts were received by him last year with 187 species reported. He will mail instructions to last year's participants in April. If you are interested in participating please contact Palmer-Ball, 8207 Old Westport Road, Louisville, Kentucky 40222.

The Kentucky Warbler

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OUR COVER

The reproduction of the American Redstart is another example of the excellent work of our staff artist, Ray Harm.

PREDICTING OVENBIRD OCCURRENCE IN EASTERN KENTUCKY FORESTS

William C. McComb and John J. Moriarty

Ovenbirds (*Seiurus aurocapillus* L.) are common summer residents of the Cumberland Plateau (Mengel 1965). Recent studies have indicated that this species prefers mature, contiguous forests and that they are adversely affected by habitat fragmentation (Robbins 1979, Stauffer and Best 1980, and Crawford et al. 1981). Allaire (1978) presented data which indicated adverse effects of surface mining on Ovenbird occurrence. This fragmentation must be of a specific degree, and surrounding areas must not be dominated by woody vegetation. Freedman et al. (1981), Maurer et al. (1981), and McComb and Rumsey *(in prep.)* found Ovenbirds occurring along edges of selectively cut, herbicide treated, and clear-cut forests in which the width of the disturbed area was less than 60 m, and the area was dominated by woody vegetation.

As surface mining continues in eastern Kentucky, fragmentation of the forest environment will increase unless reclamation plans include reforestation efforts, but most reclaimed areas are currently seeded to grasses and herbaceous species. Consequently, it seems that Ovenbird populations will be adversely affected over large areas of eastern Kentucky in the near future. Robbins (1979) estimated that 2,650 ha of contiguous forest was needed to maintain viable breeding populations of Ovenbirds in the central Appalachians. It is important that areas of contiguous forest at least this size be maintained. It is also important that these forests maintain habitat conditions important to Ovenbird occurrence.

The objective of our study was to develop a simple predictive model which could be used to determine if Ovenbirds could exist in such a given contiguous forest, and if they could exist there, then provide an estimate of the approximate density.

STUDY AREA AND METHODS

Three watersheds in the University of Kentucky's Robinson Forest were chosen for study: Snag Ridge Fork, Falling Rock, and Bucklick. Watersheds were similar in vegetation. Ridges were dominated by shortleaf pine *(Pinus echinata)*, pitch pine *(Pinus rigida)*, chestnut oak *(Quercus prinus)*, and scarlet oak *(Q. coccinea)*; south-facing slopes by hickories (*Carya* spp.), white oak *(Q. alba)*, black oak *(Q. velutina)*, and sourwood *(Oxydendrum arboreum)*; and north-facing slopes by eastern hemlock *(Tsuga canadensis)*, American beech *(Fagus grandifolia)*, northern red oak *(Q. rubra)*, cucumbertree *(Magnolia acuminata)*, and yellow-poplar *(Liriodendron tulipifera)*. Bucklick and Falling Rock were dominated by mature trees, but few small openings in the canopy were caused by previous windthrow and tree girdling.

Data for model development were collected in Snag Ridge Fork. This area contained diverse stages of forest development following herbicide application and clearcutting. No treated area was greater than 0.4-ha and treated areas were surrounded by mature forest. For a detailed description of these plots refer to McComb and Rumsey (1981). Thirteen 10-

minute visits were made to 0.4-ha plots in each of six habitat types (mature forest, four levels of herbicide application, and clearcutting) on each of a north-facing, south-facing and ridge-top site from 20 March to 15 June 1980 and 1981. Seven morning and six evening visits were made and all singing Ovenbirds in each 0.4-ha plot were recorded.

Thirty habitat characteristics were measured at 15 stations through the center of each 0.4-ha plot in May 1980. Mean values for each variable were used to characterize the plot. Habitat variables included: tree characteristics, snag characteristics, ground cover (logs, rocks, understory characteristics), stump characteristics, slope, distance to water, and foliage height diversity (McComb and Rumsey 1981). A stepwise regression procedure was used to develop a regression model to predict Ovenbird occurrence upon habitat variables.

Ovenbird densities were determined on Bucklick and Falling Rock watersheds from April to June 1981. Birds were counted three times in the morning and three times in the evening on each area within a 20-ha grid system and utilized methods similar to those described by Mikol (1980). Habitat variables described earlier were measured at 50 locations on each watershed in June 1981. Mean values were used to characterize each watershed, and were used to test the model developed from the Snag Ridge Fork data.

RESULTS

A total of 15 territorial Ovenbirds was recorded on the Snag Ridge Fork plots. A regression model which utilized nine habitat variables to predict Ovenbird density ($R^2=95.6$) was developed:

Density = 3.2-3.7 (tree density/4m^2)-0.08 (tree diameter,cm) +0.04 (leaf cover,%)-0.06 (midstory cover,%) +0.14 (distance to a log,m)-0.04 (distance to water,m) +0.02 (basal area, m^2/ha) +0.32 (log diameter,cm)-0.83 (understory diversity, Shannon-Weaver formula).

This model predicted density per 0.4-ha per 13 visits, so a correction factor was needed to convert estimates to a standard:

Ovenbirds, pairs per 20 ha = estimated density ÷ 13 x 2.47 x 20.

This resulted in an estimate of 15.2 Ovenbirds on each of Bucklick and Falling Rock. These estimates were 5.3 and 8.2 individuals too high, seemingly unacceptable, but several factors must be kept in mind. First, estimates of breeding bird densities by counts are conservative and it is possible that some birds were missed. Second, the model was developed in more diverse habitats than it was tested, so consistent predictions for the two mature forest watersheds should be expected. Finally, the utility of a nine-variable model is questionable at best. A simple model would be more useful though perhaps less accurate than the above model.

A four-variable model was then developed ($R^2=61.4$):

Density = 2.95-0.003 (distance to water,m) +0.03 (basal area, m^2/ha) +0.15 (log diameter,cm)-0.92 (understory diversity).

Density/20ha = estimated density ÷ 13 x 2.47 x 20.

This model resulted in more accurate prediction of Ovenbird density based on individuals observed at Bucklick and Falling Rock. The model underestimated density at Bucklick by 1.3 individuals and overestimated density at Falling Rock by 2.1 individuals (Table 1).

Hypothetical data were generated for a four-year-old clearcut based on the data of McComb and Rumsey (1981). Intermediate values were then estimated for 15- and 30-year-old stands (Table 1). The model provided a good estimate of the relative abundance of Ovenbirds in each habitat. Density in the four-year-old stand was underestimated by 0.6 pairs. In the 15-year-old stand our model overestimated density by 0.9 pairs based on Shugart et al.'s (1978) reported density of 2.2 pairs/20 ha in a young Appalachian hardwood forest. Overestimation was greater in the 30-year-old stand (medium-aged) than in the 15-year-old stand, but this may be a result more of the estimated habitat characteristics for the 30-year-old stand than of the ability of the model to predict densities. Deviations from the predictions of the model will occur in young stands with many large logs (logs not removed after clearcutting) or with low understory diversity (resulting from soil compaction during logging, recent herbicide application, talus, etc.). Young mixed hardwood stands normally have small diameter logs and high understory diversity.

DISCUSSION

Based on the four-variable model, an investigator or wildlife manager could take a random sample of a contiguous forest area and collect data on distance to water, basal area, log diameter, and understory diversity and predict if Ovenbirds would occur on that area and also provide an estimate of relative density. Average distance to water is easily measured from topographic maps before field work begins. Twenty to 40 points should be established in watershed (depending on its size), and diameter of the nearest log and basal area determined with a meter stick and wedge prism, respectively. The only time-consuming variable which must be determined is understory diversity. A 4-m^2 plot should be established at each point and the number of individuals of each species recorded. Then the Shannon-Weaver formula can be applied to estimate diversity (Cox 1976).

Model development will continue by incorporating data from Bucklick and Falling Rock into the model. This model in turn must be tested and as additional data are incorporated into the model, the predictive power should increase.

The habitat variables selected by the four-variable model reflect several important aspects of Ovenbird habitat. Smith (1977) reported that mesic conditions are important to Ovenbirds in Arkansas, hence the negative relationship in the model with distance to water. The importance of high basal area in the model is a result of a mature forest and it is important to Ovenbird occurrence (Crawford et al. 1981). Log characteristics probably reflect the ground-nesting habit of the species, and low understory diversity is probably a result of high crown and midstory cover resulting in a sparse, open understory composed of only a few shade tolerant species.

Several points must be made before recommending use of this model in eastern Kentucky. First, Robbins (1979) found no Ovenbirds in stands less than 11 ha in size, so this model should be used only in forest stands of this size or larger. Second, Ovenbird density varies curvilinearly with stand size up to 2,650-ha (Robbins 1979), so density estimates from the model should be consistently higher than actual density in stands less than 2,650-ha. Third, the model should not be applied to young stands with

large-diameter logs or with low understory diversity. Finally, use of this model should be restricted to eastern Kentucky in areas similar in topography and floral composition to that of Robinson Forest. Additional testing may increase its ability to predict numbers of individuals, but in its present form it appears to allow prediction of occurrence versus absence and prediction of relative abundance.

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

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Table 1. Actual and predicted Ovenbird (*Seiurus aurocapillus* L.) densities in stands of various ages in eastern Kentucky.

Habitat Variable	*Stand Age (years)*				
	4[1]	15[2]	30[2]	60[3]	60[4]
Distance to water (m)	60	60	60	65	59
Basal area (ft^2/ha)	9.0	13.0	16.0	17.0	22.4
Log Diameter (cm)	10.0	18.0	22.0	23.7	23.4
Understory Diversity (H')	5.6	5.5	5.3	5.25	5.25
Predicted Ovenbird Density (pairs/20 ha)	-0.6	3.1	6.4	7.9	8.4
Actual Ovenbird Density (pairs/20 ha)	0[5]	2.26	3.46	9.9	7.0

[1]hypothetical data for habitat following a commercial clearcut; based on McComb and Rumsey (1981).
[2]hypothetical data.
[3]Bucklick Watershed, actual data, except understory diversity.
[4]Falling Rock Watershed, actual data, except understory diversity.
[5]Snag Ridge Fork data.
[6]From Shugart et al. (1978).

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THE WINTER SEASON OF 1981-82

Anne L. Stamm

The mild weather of the fall continued through December and into the first week of January in much of the state. From then on it was consistently cold until the last week of February, but with less snow cover than normal. A severe cold spell occurred on January 17 and dropped temperatures from 10 to 15 degrees below zero. The state also experienced freezing rain and sleet storms on January 18, February 8 and 9, which encased tree limbs and shrubs and did much damage. This weather condition brought such species as Tree Sparrows and Rusty Blackbirds to feeding stations. A warming trend developed around February 20, and Canada Geese were noted moving northward and a few shorebirds began to appear from the south.

As already published and commented on in the Mid-winter Bird Counts, a few species remained well beyond usual departure dates. However, the January weather brought a number of northern gulls such as Glaucous and Thayer's. Observers were disappointed at the few — almost absent — Evening Grosbeaks. A few Crossbills appeared, but the species which drew the most comment was probably the House Finch.

Loons through Herons — The majority of the Common Loons left before the Christmas Bird Counts, but two were still present in January: one at Richmond, January 2 (RA) and one at Hopkinsville, January 3 (KH). Horned Grebe were scarce and none were recorded at Madisonville (JH). Pied-billed Grebe were also scarce as compared to last year. The Great Blue Heron was more noticeable in Hickman and Livingston counties (MM); fewer appeared at Hopson Bay in the Canton area (LSt); 12 at Ballard County, January 29 (BPB); one at West Point, January 29 (S. FS, DS); 12 to 16 at Clark Fish Hatchery, January 8 through February (FB); recorded on nine CBC's, but on the whole numbers were below last year (M.ob.) A late record for the Great Egret was established at Bowling Green, December 12 (TD *fide* HS). A single Black-crowned Night Heron was seen at Louisville until the first week of January (BPB).

Waterfowl — Six Whistling Swans were observed flying over Hayes Kennedy Park, Louisville, December 26 (BM). A flock of 78 Canada Geese was seen flying south over east Louisville on January 26 (FS, S); numbers peaked at Ballard Waterfowl Management Area (hereafter BWMA) on January 20, with 80,000 (TY). The northward migration was noted on February 21 when some "three dozen" flocks of 100 each moved over Cadiz during the morning hours (LSt). Two White-fronted Geese were at BWMA, January 29 (AB). A flock of *500* Snow Geese flew over south central Louisville, December 5 (BS) and peaked at BWMA on January 20 with 8,000 (TY). A Richardson race of the Canada Goose was discovered on a lake at the Louisville Zoological Gardens, January 13, where it remained for some time (NS *fide* Robert Bean). Ducks were rather scarce. Fewer Canvasback were noted. Four Greater Scaup were at Shippingport Island, December 5 (LS, S, BBC); eight on the Ohio River, Louisville, on several occasions, February 13-16 (LR) and two to 20 along the Ohio River, Louisville, February 20 (BPB). The Common Goldeneye appeared on six CBC's with numbers from one to 32, but 200 were counted on Kentucky Lake, January 30-31 (BPB). The only White-winged Scoters reported were the two at Kentucky Lake, January 28 and 30 (AB, BPB), Ruddy Ducks were in much lower numbers at Lake Pewee than in previous years (JH). One hundred and five Hooded Mergansers were sighted at Land Between the Lakes, December 19 (CP); and two, possibly early migrants, appeared at Lentz's pond, Louisville, February 27 (DN). A few Common Mergansers were noted: one at Rock Haven, December 20 (BBC); one at West Point, January 29 (S. FS, DS); four at Green River Lake, February 14 (JEl) and 11 at LBL, December 19 (CP).

Falconiformes — The sighting of 119 Turkey Vultures and 19 Black Vultures at Glasgow, December 27 seemed noteworthy (WM) as were the 15 Black Vultures at Green River Lake, February 14 (JEl). Sharp-shinned and Cooper's Hawks were reported in small numbers on various occasions (M.ob.) Red-tailed Hawks were found in good numbers and were above last year's figures. Red-shouldered Hawks were slightly better than last year but still scarce (M.ob.). A Harlan's Hawk was seen at Shepherdsville, December 4 (AB). There were some conflicting reports on the Rough-legged Hawk and although the species was reported from Murray to Morehead, numbers on the whole were down. On the Bald Eagle Survey January 2-16 the final tally was 142 — an increase over 1981 results (JD). Also, three Golden Eagles were encountered (JD).

Bobwhite through Coots — Bobwhite were up slightly in most areas, but were scarce in Bedford (JY). American Coots were down from previous years at Madisonville (JH).

Woodcock through Gulls — American Woodcock were first heard 'peenting" at Eubank, February 17 (JEl) and the following day at Fern Creek (DSu). A Greater and a Lesser Yellowleg were present in western Kentucky off Hwy. 1281, February 20 (PS). This was a good winter for gulls. Glaucous Gulls appeared at a number of locations: singles at West Point, January 9 (S. FS, DS); and Falls of the Ohio, January 11 (BPB); an adult and five to six immatures at Kentucky Lake, Paducah and Smithland Dam, January 28-31 (AB, BPB) and two adults and four immatures at Kentucky and Barkley Lakes, February 7 (AB, BPB, DC, DN, M. Medley); one flying over Shippingport Island, February 23 (S, FS). A Lesser Black-backed Gull at Kentucky Dam, January 30-31 was extraordinary — bird photographed (BPB, AB). Herring Gulls were more numerous this winter. Flocks of 300 to 600 were noted at Falls of the Ohio (LR, DN, S, FS, BPB) and an estimated 3750 to 5000 at Kentucky and Barkley Lakes (BPB, AB). A number of Thayer's Gulls were reported: one at Kentucky Lake, December 30 (BPB, AB), one at Markland Dam, January 8 and thought to be the same bird as observed at the Falls of the Ohio in November, since there was a missing primary feather in the left wing (BPB); eight to twelve (six of them immatures) at Kentucky Lake and Smithland Dam area, January 28-31 (AB, BPB) and 10-12 at Kentucky and Barkley Lake, February 7 (BPB, AB, DC, DN, M. Medley). Since immature Thayer's Gulls may often be confused with the two closely related species, Herring Gull and Iceland Gull, judicious collecting of specimens seems desirable. The two Caspian Terns along the Ohio River at Louisville, December 20 were unusual (MiS, DM, VR).

Mourning Doves through Woodpeckers — Although the Mourning Dove was down at Bedford (JY), it was present in fair numbers in most areas. A Barn Owl was reported near Danville, Boyle County, January 17 (JEl and Diane Elmore). A Long-eared Owl made a surprise appearance in a Louisville city yard and remained from January 1 through February 23 (RB). A few Short-eared Owls were reported: singles at two locations in Boyle County, January 9 (DC, R. Morris) and at Lexington, Fayette County (MS *fide* DC) during last week of January; three to five in Breathitt County during the period (PA). Red-headed Woodpeckers were fairly widespread, and three in Rowan County were the first observed there in four years (FB). Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were up this winter, especially at Louisville and Mammoth Cave National Park. The Downy Woodpecker was less common at Fort Wright, while the Hairy Woodpecker was up in numbers (EG).

Flycatchers through Wrens — The single Eastern Phoebes recorded in Jackson County, February 24 (DC) and in Bullitt County, February 28 (JB) were most likely early migrants. Horned Larks were present in good numbers in most areas from mid-December to mid-February; one leccistic bird was seen in Shelby County, January 14 (BPB). A Crow roost with an estimated 10,000 birds was seen in southwest Lexington in December (DC). Red-breasted Nuthatches were common and widespread. A pair of Bewick's Wrens was again observed in the Nicholasville area (DC). Caro-

lina Wrens improved some but populations were not up to pre-1977 levels (M.ob.). A single Long-billed Marsh Wren lingered at Louisville until December 8 (AB).

Thrashers through Bluebirds — As usual, small numbers of Brown Thrashers were seen in late December all across the state and singles were found at two Louisville feeding stations in mid-January (S, BPB). American Robins were not as common as last year but were present in good numbers in most areas, with the exception of Bedford, where they were down 75% (JY). Hermit Thrushes were found in higher numbers than usual. There was a modest increase in the Eastern Bluebird in Rowan County (FB) and the CBC's indicated much improvement, yet there was some concern in some areas.

Kinglets through Warblers — It was encouraging to note the increase in Golden-crowned Kinglets. The Ruby-crowned Kinglet remained in low numbers but showed some improvement. A Water Pipit was seen feeding with Horned Larks on a Louisville farm, January 15 (BPB). Cedar Waxwings were present in good numbers in late December, January and February, with a maximum of 400+ at Pulaski County Park, January 3 (JEl). Reports of single Loggerhead Shrikes were received from Trimble (JY), Adair, Casey, Pulaski, Taylor (JEl) and Oldham (*fide* CG) counties; also found in 17 other counties (CBC). Beside the usual wintering Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warblers, which were more numerous than last year, especially in the heavily forested areas such as Mammoth Cave National Park, Otter Creek, and Bernheim Forest, there were a few interesting late occurrences: an Orange-crowned Warbler at Murray, December 19 (MM & J. Erwin *fide* CP); Common Yellowthroat, December 27 at Otter Creek (BPB, D. Knopf); and *20* Palm Warblers in the Cave Run Lake area, January 8 (FB).

House Sparrow through Blackbirds — A male House Sparrow was observed beginning nest construction at Fort Wright, February 15 (EG). The Eastern Meadowlark was up slightly in some areas, but remained in low numbers in Louisville (S), Frankfort (HJ), Madisonville (JH), and Bedford (JY). The blackbird roost, east of Somerset, which was reported in the fall, broke up in January and thereafter blackbirds were difficult to find in that area until late February (JEl). Another large roost, west of Richmond, with an estimated 375,000 birds of which 80% were Starlings was published in the CBC (RA). Rusty Blackbirds were scarce this winter as compared to last year; small groups were noted at feeding stations in east Louisville during the extreme cold spell January 13-28 (S, BPB, DN). A flock of 5000 Common Grackles appeared in the writer's yard December 6, but left soon after and few were seen the rest of the winter until late February, when the birds began appearing from the south. The species was "short of normal about 90%" at Bedford (JY); and wintered in Rowan County for the first time since 1977 (FB).

Fringillidae — A Dickcissel was observed at a feeding station in Murray, February 19-27 (CP). Evening Grosbeaks were practically absent — only a few were reported: one at a feeder at Murray (*fide* CP); five at a feeder in Louisville, December 20 (DM, VR), three at Morehead (FB); and a "few" in the Valley Station area (DS). Purple Finches were

in low numbers compared to 1981. The House Finch continued to spread in different areas of the state and new sightings were reported from the following locations: Morehead (LK, FB), Fishing Creek Recreation area (JER), Bedford (JY), Fort Wright (EG); present throughout the period at a Louisville feeding station (MSu) and a few at other scattered locations in the Louisville area (AB, SC, BPB, S); one hundred birds at Eubank was the highest number reported (JEl). Pine Siskins were more common after mid-January and were largely confined to central and eastern Kentucky; highest counts were 120 to 160 at Cave Hill Cemetery (AB, KC). Twenty-three Red Crossbills were found at Cave Hill Cemetery, February 7 (JP); numbers increased to 50 by February 17 (AB) and a few remained until February 27 (KC et al). A few White-winged Crossbills were noted: one near Muldraugh, December 10 and 10 near Cherokee Park, February 15 (AB, with R. Bauman). The only records of the Common Redpoll were of single birds at Cave Hill Cemetery, February 7 (JB) and February 10 (DN) and at a Louisville feeding station (VH). The Tree Sparrow continued to be scarce and was entirely absent at Bedford (JY); a few fed at feeding stations in the Louisville area during mid-January and February (S, DN, BPB). A Chipping Sparrow wintered at a Louisville feeding station (BPB). White-crowned Sparrows were fairly widespread and up slightly, but continued low at Louisville (S). Only a few Lapland Longspurs were present in late December in central Kentucky, but when the ground became snow-covered numbers increased in Oldham County, January 14 (S, FS), Boyle County, January 17 (JEl), and a maximum of 250 on a Louisville farm, January 14-18 and a similar number there February 9 and dropped to 25 to 50 February 10-13 (BPB). A flock of 25 Snow Buntings was present at Lexington on January 14 (AnB); a few at Louisville on the same date, but a large flock of about 400 arrived there on February 10 and about 100 still present on February 13 (BPB).

For a number of years *American Birds* has published The Blue List. The birds named on this list are ones which the editor says "have recently given or are currently giving indicators of non-cyclical population declines or range contractions, either locally or widespread." Not all seem reduced in Kentucky, but for some we are interested in their breeding population levels; others on distribution and abundance; and the colonial nesters, which require specific habitats for breeding. Below is a list of birds, some from the Blue List, for which we have some concern here in Kentucky. It is hoped that observers will record any information on them and send the data to the writer along with other notes for the Seasonal Reports. In this way the current status in the state may be determined. The list includes the following: Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Great Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Hooded Merganser, Cooper's Hawk, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Peregrine Falcon, King Rail, Upland Sandpiper, Barn Owl, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Eastern Phoebe, Tree Swallow, Bank Swallow, Bewick's Wren, Veery, Bell's Vireo, Blackburnian Warbler, Canada Warbler, Mourning Warbler, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow's, Vesper, Lark and Bachman's Sparrows.

Contributors — Pierre Allaire (PA), Robert Altman (RA), Alan Barron (AB), Jane Bell (JB), Ann Bradley (AnB), Robert Brown (RB), Fred Busroe (FB), Kathryn Clay (KC), Suzanne Claugus (SC), Dennis

Coskren (DC), Tom Durbin (TD), James Durell (JD), Jackie Elmore (JEl), C. Gresham (CG), Ed Groneman (EG), James H. Hancock (JH), Virginia Hectorne (VH), K. Higgins (KH), Howard P. Jones (HJ), Lewis Kornman (LK), Wayne Mason (WM), Mike Miller (MM), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (BM), Dottie Muntan (DM), Doxy Noonan (DN), James Pasikowski (JP), Clell Peterson (CP), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BPB), Lene Rauth (LR), V. Rommel (VR), Nancy Scheldorf (NS), H. E. Shadowen (HS), Bernice Shannon (BS), Lawrence Smith (LS), Russell Starr (RS), Anne L. Stamm (S), F. W. Stamm (FS), Pat Stallings (PS), Louise Stokes (LSt), Margaret Sullivan (MSu), Donald Summerfield (DS), Donna Sumpter (DSu), Marie Sutton (MS), Midge Susie (MiS), John Young (JY), Tom Young (TY). Other abbreviations — Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Christmas Bird Count (CBC), Land Between the Lakes (LBL), Many Observers (M.ob.).

— 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Spring Meeting — April 16-18, 1982

The Fifty-eighth annual Spring meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society was held at Rough River Dam State Resort Park, Falls of Rough, Ky. on April 16, 17, and 18th, 1982.

The president, Pierre Allaire, called the meeting to order and turned the meeting over to Blaine Ferrell, vice-president. Dr. Ferrell introduced Dr. Herbert Clay who presented an excellent slide program, "Birds of Big Pond Sanctuary". Dr. Ferrell also presented a paper entitled "Migratory Strategy of the Purple Finch", research conducted by Laurence Holmes. The president announced the walk schedule for Saturday morning. A social hour followed the meeting.

Three Saturday morning field trips originated from the lodge at 7:45 a.m. Mrs. Herbert Clay conducted a trip to Falls of Rough, Ramon Iles led a tour to Big Pond Sanctuary, and Burt Powell led a third group on a walk along the Nature Trail. A light rain was falling, but the skies cleared by noon. The Clays served a delicious luncheon to the members and guests at their Big Pond Sanctuary home.

At 2:30 p.m. the film "The Last Stronghold of the Eagle", a National Audubon film, was shown in the lodge. Dan Twedt, wildlife biologist with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service in Bowling Green, Kentucky discussed the research division of the Service. He also announced that the Wildlife Society of Kentucky has recently been founded in the state. The second film was "The Role of Research" produced by the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Department of the Interior.

Anne Stamm announced the results of the January Eagle Survey in cooperation with the Fish and Wildlife Service. There were 141 Bald Eagles, more in eastern Kentucky than before, and the largest number we have ever had on the survey. Three Golden Eagles were reported.

After President Allaire welcomed everybody to the Saturday evening session, he introduced the speaker, Wallace Dean, wildlife biologist with the Corps of Engineers in the Huntington district. The subject — "History of the Wild Turkey in Kentucky".

After a presentation of the problems of widespread uncontrolled fires, large scale timbering, disease and human encroachment, Mr. Dean went on to tell of the beginnings of protection for the wild turkey, restocking procedures, and what constitutes favorable habitat for these birds. From a wild turkey population in Kentucky of 398,690 in pre-columbian times, there was a total of 1,000 in the state in 1973 and a present population of 7,000 according to Mr. Dean.

President Allaire announced future KOS meetings: Fall 1982 — Cumberland Falls State Resort Park, October 1, 2, and 3 with Dr. Fred Alsop as speaker; Spring 1983 to be held at Barren River State Resort Park, April 22, 23, and 24.

Sunday morning field trips were to begin from the lodge at 8:30. New members and guests were introduced.

Dr. Blaine Ferrell compiled the check list of 106 species.

The group adopted the following resolution: Be it resolved that the Kentucky Ornithological Society express its sincere appreciation to Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Clay for their generous hospitality for allowing the use of Big Pond Sanctuary for field trips and providing the membership with a fine lunch — Spring 1982 KOS meeting.

A complete set of bird prints by Richard Sloan was exhibited by the Woodwards.

It was decided that the Honorable Gene Snyder should receive a letter from KOS commending him for his efforts in the preservation of the Falls of the Ohio.

The meeting adjourned.

Sunday morning was sunny and cool. Birding around the lodge, near the campground and near the Falls of Rough produced four additional species, bringing the total to 110 for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Kingsolver
Recording Secretary

BIRDS OBSERVED AT THE SPRING MEETING, 1982

Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Cattle Egret, Black-crowned Night Heron, Canada Goose, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Wood Duck, Lesser Scaup, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, American Kestrel, Bobwhite, American Coot, Killdeer, Solitary Sandpiper, Lesser Yellowlegs, Ring-billed Gull, Forster's Tern, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Barred Owl, Whip-poor-will, Chimney Swift, Belted Kingfisher, Common Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Acadian Flycatcher, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, American Robin, Wood Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet,

Cedar Waxwing, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Black-and-white Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Northern Parula, Magnolia Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Common Yellowthroat, House Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Orchard Oriole, Northern Oriole, Brewer's Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Purple Finch, Pine Siskin, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Tree Sparrow, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow; total species 110.

ATTENDANCE AT THE SPRING MEETING, 1982

BOWLING GREEN: Blaine Ferrell, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Jones, Wayne Mason, H. E. Shadowen, Dan Twedt.
CARLISLE: Dr. and Mrs. Wendell Kingsolver.
CLARKSON: Ruth Keller.
JACKSON: Dr. and Mrs. Pierre Allaire.
LEITCHFIELD: Mr. and Mrs. Montelle Wilson.
LEXINGTON: Mr. and Mrs. Jim Williams.
LONDON: Roy Wilson.
LOUISVILLE: Bob Brown, Katherine Colburn, Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Clay, Jr., Doris Garst, Mr. and Mrs. P. Gorman, Mr. and Mrs. Wilbur Japs, Mr. and Mrs. R. L. Hectorne, Anna Hook, John Krull, Dr. and Mrs. Burt Monroe, Jr., Kay Mudd, Holly Oldham, Martha Pike, Carl Reed, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm.
MACEO: Mr. and Mrs. Burt Powell.
MOREHEAD: Fred Busroe.
OWENSBORO: Anne Bowne, Jean Burdette, Mary Lydia Greenwell, Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Iles, Juanita Hatcher, Emogene Lashbrook, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wilson.
RICHMOND: Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Whitt.
JEFFERSONVILLE, IND.: William Clay.
CLARKSVILLE, IND.: Lene Rauth.
DYERSBURG, TENN.: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Leggett, Joe Bonnell.

FIELD NOTES

SIGHTING OF THE LONG-BILLED DOWITCHER IN ADAIR COUNTY

On Sunday, October 18, 1981, at approximately 12:30 P.M., I was birding a stretch of shoreline on the Green River Lake in northwestern Adair Co., about one mile east of the Highway 551 bridge. At this time of the year, the lake was characterized by a low-flow pool, with an eleva-

tion of approximately 663.95 feet. This exposed vast areas of the lake bottom and mud flats. It can be very rewarding birding to anyone familiar with the birds associated with this type of habitat.

Using a 20X spotting scope, I was able to detect a medium-sized shorebird feeding among several Killdeer *(Charadrius vociferus)*. The bird's generally gray plumage with a white rump extending halfway up the back, short dark legs, very long straight bill and a sewing machine-like feeding motion, identified this bird as a fall-plumaged dowitcher. Realizing that the bill lengths of the two species of dowitchers overlap, I could only discern that this bird's bill was extremely long. Since I did not have anything to compare it to, I could only estimate that the bill's length was at least two and one-half times the width of the side view of the bird's head. At this point, I decided to try and obtain a closer view. Finally able to observe it at 75 feet, I decided to flush the bird. As it flew only a short distance away, it uttered a single-noted call characteristic of the Long-billed Dowitcher *(Limnodromus scolopaceus)*.

Little is known of this species in Kentucky. Mengel's *Birds of Kentucky* lists only one authentic record of an unsexed specimen in winter plumage taken by Monroe at the Falls of the Ohio on October 19, 1946.

Though I am totally convinced that sight records can never replace photographic or specimen records for certain species, I am confident that the bird in question was of this species.

It was also observed by Diane L. Elmore, who agreed with my identification. The weather was partly cloudy and cool.

— Jackie B. Elmore, Sr., Rt. 1 Box 314-A, Eubank, Kentucky 42567

COLONY OBSERVATIONS ON LAKE BARKLEY

Cattle Egrets *(Bubulcus ibis)*, Little Blue Herons *(Florida caerulea)*, and one pair of Green Herons *(Butorides striatus)* are nesting in a Black-crowned Night Heron *(Nycticorax nycticorax)* colony on Lake Barkley. The rookery was first discovered in 1979 by Richard Lowe, TVA biologist at Land Between the Lakes. At that time approximately 60 Black-crowned Night Heron nests were observed on an island. In 1980 the active nest count was 72, and in 1981 the active nest count ballooned to 213 nests!

During a helicopter survey on May 12, 1981, Burline Pullin (TVA Division of Land and Forest Resources) observed three adult Little Blue Herons in ash trees in the colony and two in intermediate stages of plumage. During an evening flight-line survey on June 15, 1981, I noted three Little Blue Herons flying in and out of the colony, one Green Heron, and four Cattle Egrets with the wheat-gold markings on head and back that distinguished them from immature Little Blue Herons. During the same season, Richard Lowe had identified at least one Cattle Egret nest on the island, and Jeremy Dreier (Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources) photographed a Cattle Egret on the nest in the colony.

The colony has begun to expand to an adjoining island.

— Julia Thomas, Biological Aide, TVA, Division of Land and Forest Resources, Norris, TN 37828.

OBSERVATIONS FROM THE FALLS OF THE OHIO

In a recent article, W. H. Brown, (1981, Ky. Warbler 57: 25) dis-

cussed the interaction between an attacking Cooper's Hawk *(Accipiter cooperii)* and a Belted Kingfisher *(Megaceryle alcyon)* on Bensen Creek in Franklin County. I had never before heard of this type of behavior, and I was surprised to witness a somewhat similar confrontation while at the Falls of the Ohio on August 15, 1981.

On this day few fall migrant shorebirds had arrived, but many Killdeer *(Charadrius vociferus)* and several Spotted Sandpipers *(Actitis macularia)* were frequenting the fossil shelf known locally as "wave rock". At about 11:00 a.m. these shorebirds were flushed by an American Kestrel *(Falco sparverius)* as it approached from the northwest. As the shorebirds headed across a wide channel of water towards the major rock shelf, the kestrel suddenly became interested in a pair of the Spotted Sandpipers, quickly closed in on them, and stooped at one of the birds. Upon being approached too closely, this sandpiper, without hesitation, plunged full force into the water, only to appear a couple of seconds later at the surface, from which it immediately took flight. The kestrel, apparently wise to this tactic, veered abruptly and made another pass at the sandpiper, which immediately eluded the falcon a second time by diving beneath the surface, this time reappearing a few feet from where it went in. At this point the kestrel lost interest and proceeded on as the soaking wet, but successful, Spotted Sandpiper resumed its original course.

Perhaps this type of behavior is commonplace, but it is certainly one which has never before been witnessed by the author.

On August 9, 1981, Max Medley and I visited the Falls. The weather was mostly clear and cool, and shorebirds were numerous, probably the result of the passage of a cold front two days earlier.

Waterbirds observed at the Falls included 7 Great Blue Herons *(Ardea herodias)*, 5 Great Egrets *(Casmerodius albus)*, several Black-crowned Night Herons *(Nycticorax nycticorax)*, 6 Green Herons *(Butorides striatus)*,, one Semipalmated Plover *(Charadrius semipalmatus)*, approximately 50 Killdeer *(C. vociferus)*, two American Golden Plovers *(Pluvialis dominica)* one Black-bellied Plover *(P. squatarola)*, 5 Greater Yellowlegs *(Tringa melanoleuca)*, two Pectoral Sandpipers *(Calidris melanotos)*, two Baird's Sandpipers *(C. bairdii)*, two Western Sandpipers, *(C. mauri)*, and a flock of 35 unidentified peeps.

A great number of these birds had collected on the rock shelf that extends out from the Indiana shore. The upper gates of McAlpine Dam were partially open, but had been lowered significantly during the night, trapping thousands of fish, mostly small Emerald Shiners *(Notropis atherinoides)*, in the depressions of this shelf as the high water receded.

It was interesting to note that several of the shorebird species were utilizing this food source almost exclusively. Many of the Killdeer, the American Golden Plovers, and the Black-bellied Plover were all observed to be feeding on these dead or dying "minnows", picking them off the rocks at the edge of the pools and swallowing them whole. The Greater Yellowlegs were also eating these fish, but they were observed actively pursuing and catching live ones in the tiny pools.

Bent (1929) mentions this habit of yellowlegs pursuing minnows as a common feeding method, but no mention is made of plovers scavenging for fish in the manner we observed. He does mention, however, a Black-bellied Plover observed feeding on the remains of a dead crab.

It was surprising to us that none of the herons and egrets were also

feeding in this area along with the shorebirds, but it is quite possible that human activity prevented this.

Our trip was climaxed by the appearance of an immature Peregrine Falcon *(Falco peregrinus)* which gave chase to several of the shorebirds, none of which were pursued diligently enough, we thought, to consider diving beneath the water in the nearby channel to elude the falcon. The Peregrine Falcon remained on the Falls for about fifteen minutes, most of the time spent sitting on the large wall, before it began sircling over the rock shelf and disappeared out of sight to the southeast.

Another observation made at the Falls of the Ohio has never been published, and details of this occurrence follow. On the morning of September 1, 1978, I went to the Falls looking for migrant shorebirds only to find nearly the entire fossil bed covered by water. However, a few dozen rocks remained sticking out of the water, and a collection of herons was utilizing these from which to hunt for fish and on which to rest. About a dozen Great Blue Herons and fifty Black-crowned Night Herons were present and, as I scanned these birds, I noticed a large heron which seemed nearly the size of a Great Blue Heron, but which was neither of the proper color, nor of the proper build. The bird appeared superficially to be an oddly colored Little Blue Heron *(Florida caerulea)*, except I was aware that it was much too large to be that species. The long, thin neck was uniformly ash-brown and the rest of the body was entirely slate blue-gray. The bill was completely blackish with little trace of proximal-distal differentiation, and the legs were likewise blackish. Thus, I had a bird which I could not place using field guides, but which I had a suspicion might be a Reddish Egret *(Dichromanassa rufescens)* in some sort of post-breeding or immature plumage with which I was not familiar. After further thought I decided this was the only possibility and contacted Lene Rauth who, in turn, contacted Burt Monroe, Jr. Later in the day, both of them and Joe Caruso found this bird in the same area and also agreed with my identification. As they were watching the bird, it took off and flew upstream. Without the streaming plumes of the breeding plumage, these birds appear much slimmer, and of a definitely duller coloration, which is not depicted in any field guide. In addition, the dark bill is entirely contrary to the two-toned pattern shown in field guides.

This was a first state record for Kentucky, and it seems improbable that the northerly movement of this species into the state is of regular occurrence. Two days previous to this sighting, the remnants of a hurricane had passed through the state from its origin in the Gulf of Mexico. It is entirely possible that this individual became disoriented in the high winds, clouds, and rain on the Gulf coast and was brought up the Mississippi and Ohio River valleys by the prevailing winds that accompanied this storm.

On September 28, 1981, I visited the falls and witnessed another surprising and strange behavior, this time involving a Great Blue Heron. The weather was overcast and fairly cool, and little shorebird activity was noted. One of the few waterbirds that I did see was a Great Blue Heron that was flying in a northerly direction at an altitude of perhaps 400 feet. As it was crossing the river, I noticed an immature Red-shouldered Hawk *(Buteo lineatus)* paralleling the Indiana shore approximately 200 feet high. The paths of these two birds happened to cross at the Indiana shore, and as the heron crossed over the hawk, it turned, half-closed its wings, stretched out its legs, and proceeded to drop into an almost vertical dive

toward the Red-shouldered Hawk. As the hawk veered slightly down toward the treetops, the Great Blue Heron pulled out of its dive some fifty feet above and behind the hawk by straightening out the wings and flapping a few times. Following this strange behavior, the Great Blue Heron reversed its path, flew back across the river, and landed on the wall, while the Red-shouldered Hawk disappeared out of sight over the trees.

Although I have many times witnessed harassment behavior by a great variety of passerines and other hawks, I was totally unprepared to see this huge bird act in a similar manner.

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—Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., 8207 Old Westport Rd., Louisville, KY 40222.

WATERFOWL UTILIZATION OF A SMALL LAKE IN THE KNOBS REGION OF KENTUCKY

While conducting a survey of the nonbreeding season birds at Maywoods, Kentucky during 1981, observations were made on the waterfowl utilization of Edmiston Lake. It seems noteworthy to report these observations due to the lack of avifaunal information in this area, and because they demonstrate that a small woodland lake in the Knobs can be attractive to a variety of waterfowl.

Mengel (1965) comments on the deficiency of avifaunal work in the Knobs region of Kentucky. Apparently, information on waterfowl utilization of small woodland lakes in the Knobs is nonexistent. Harm (1973) reported on waterfowl utilizing a woodland lake in eastern Kentucky, and noted the potential value that these lakes can provide for migratory waterfowl over mountainous regions.

Maywoods Environmental and Educational Laboratory is a 696 hectare (1740 acre) tract of land managed by the Division of Natural Areas, Eastern Kentucky University. It is located in the Knobs region of south-central Kentucky, along the southwest border of Garrard County, and the northwest border of Rockcastle County. Edmiston Lake is a small impoundment (completed in September, 1975) with a total surface area of 5.2 hectare (13 acres). It is 11 meters deep at its deepest point. The watershed is entirely forested and the only open area along the water's edge is at the dam. The forest is all second growth upland oak-hickory type.

Vegetation at the lake edge is dominated by cattail *(Typha latifolia)*, and graminoids such as soft rush *(Juncus effusus)*, bulrushes *(Scirpus atrovireus; S. americanus;* and *S. acicularis)*, spike rushes *(Eleocharis spp.)*, deer tongue grass *(Panicum clandestinum)*, and other panic grasses. Common broad-leaved herbs are *Aster pilosus, Bideus frondosa,* and *Solidago canadensis.*

SPECIES LIST

Observations were based on visits every few days to the lake, and it is very likely that daily checks would result in many other sightings.

HORNED GREBE *(Podiceps auritus)*. A single bird in winter plumage was observed on March 21. Mengel (1965) considers this species an uncommon transient west of the Cumberland Plateau, and did not have any records for the Cumberland Plateau. Because of Maywoods' proximity to the Cumberland Plateau this record is apparently one of the easternmost reports in Kentucky for this species.

PIED-BILLED GREBE *(Podilymbus podiceps)*. In the fall a single bird was observed from October 20 to December 24 on nearly every visit to the lake. In the spring a group of three or four were seen on every visit from April 1 to April 18.

CANADA GOOSE *(Branta canadensis)*. In 1979 a pair of pinioned birds were brought to the lake, and during the summer of 1981 they raised one gosling. These three can be seen together on almost any visit. One wild goose was seen on February 12, and for a two week period from November 21 to December 5 another pair was observed with the three resident birds.

MALLARD *(Anas platyrynchos)*. A male was seen on December 15, and on December 28 a group of 11 (males and females) flew onto the lake in the late afternoon.

BLACK DUCK *(Anas rubripes)* This species was only recorded in the spring on these dates: March 11 (4); March 14 (2); March 21 (4); and April 4 (4).

PINTAIL *(Anas acuta)*. One male was seen on December 24.

GREEN-WINGED TEAL *(Anas crecca)*. Three birds were flushed off the water on April 6.

BLUE-WINGED TEAL *(Anas discors)*. A male and a female were seen together on March 25.

WOOD DUCK *(Aix sponsa)*. This woodland lake with quiet water provides excellent habitat for Wood Ducks, and they were recorded often from mid-March through the end of April. A pair was seen on several occasions, and on March 18, a group of eight was flushed off the water. Over 50 Wood Duck nest boxes have been attached to trees all around the lake, and it is possible that a pair may nest here, although none have been reported nesting.

RING-NECKED DUCK *(Aythya collaris)*. A group of 12 was observed on December 14, and the following day a single male was seen.

LESSER SCAUP *(Aythya affinis)*. In the spring a female was seen on March 25, and a pair on April 1. The only fall sighting was two males on October 30.

BUFFLEHEAD *(Bucephala albeola)*. Two males were seen together on March 25.

The most diverse assemblage of waterfowl occured on March 25, when the following were observed: 2 Bufflehead, 2 Blue-winged Teal, 1 Horned Grebe, 2 Wood Ducks, and 1 Lesser Scaup.

In addition to the waterfowl, the sighting of an Osprey *(Pandion haliaeetus)* on April 6 was noteworthy. It was seen circling over the lake for a couple of minutes before it flew out of view over a ridge.

The utilization of Edmiston Lake indicates the potential value of small woodland lakes in the Knobs. These lakes may provide important aquatic habitat outside of the major flyways for a variety of migratory waterfowl.

I wish to thank Dr. William H. Martin for the background information on Maywoods, and for providing a university vehicle for transportation to the lake. His review of this paper, and the review of Carol A. Schuler are also greatly appreciated.

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— Robert Altman, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky 40475.

PLEASE MAKE FALL MEETING RESERVATION EARLY

Members are reminded that the Fall KOS meeting is being held at Cumberland Falls State Park October 1, 2, and 3. Reservations may be difficult to obtain because of the World's Fair, so please make your reservation immediately.

NEWS AND VIEWS

ASSISTANCE IN OSPREY HACKING PROGRAM SOUGHT

The Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources is scheduled to receive six young Ospreys from the T.V.A. Wildlife Resources Development Program during the later part of June this year. They hope to utilize these birds in an Osprey hacking program and are searching for sites at which to place artificial nest platforms. They plan to concentrate their efforts in the Frankfort - Louisville - Herrington Lake area. Each nest will be stocked with two six-week old to seven-week old Ospreys. Food consisting of fish will be provided by the Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources. The Department is seeking volunteers who are willing to have an artificial nest erected on their property and is also seeking volunteers who would be willing to assist in caring for the young birds. If you are interested in participating, please contact John MacGregor, Nongame Wildlife Program, #1 Game Farm Road, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

The Kentucky Warbler

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OUR COVER

Our thanks to Ray Harm, our staff artist, for the Barn Swallows.

1981 STATUS OF THE RED-COCKADED WOODPECKER ON THE DANIEL BOONE NATIONAL FOREST

GINGER A. MURPHY

The Red-cockcaded Woodpecker, *Picoides borealis,* is an endangered species of the southern United States whose range extends into the western Cumberland Plateau in southeastern Kentucky. The Red-cockaded Woodpecker excavates cavities for nesting and/or roosting in mature, living pines (*Pinus* spp.) (Hooper et al. 1980). The species' endangered status has resulted from extensive harvesting of those pines in the Southeast (Czuhai, 1971).

The Red-cockaded Woodpecker is a colonial species. The number of cavity trees per colony ranges from one to 12, and the number of birds per colony varies from two to nine (Hooper et al. 1980). An active colony may contain both active and inactive cavity trees. Active cavity trees are characterized by fresh resin flow from resin wells, by visibility of the rusty red underbark of resin wells, and by the reddish appearance of the tree resulting from removal of bark by the birds (Jackson, 1977).

Schmaltz (1981) reviewed the literature references to the Red-cockaded Woodpecker in Kentucky and evaluated the status of colonies on the Daniel Boone National Forest in 1980. The purpose of this study was to determine the 1981 status of those colonies and to present 1981 nesting data.

Schmaltz (1981) mapped 24 cavity trees that he located on the Daniel Boone National Forest, grouped them into colonies, and assigned to each colony the number of the United States Forest Service administrative compartment in which it was located. In my study, an identifying letter was also assigned to each cavity tree within a colony.

Cavity trees in 11 of 13 colonies were visited between 15 May and 25 June, 1981. Most colonies were also visited at least once outside the breeding season. Two colonies designated inactive by Schmaltz (1981) were not located. Cavity trees were evaluated for activity (Jackson, 1977) and for evidence of nesting (Ligon, 1970). If a cavity tree appeared active or if its status could not be immediately determined, and if no birds were seen or heard during the initial visit, the tree was observed for one hour before sunset to see if a Red-cockaded Woodpecker returned to roost. Cavity trees containing young were monitored at two to four day intervals to determine fledgling dates.

Six of 11 colonies visited were active. All six active colonies contained two or more active cavity trees. The status of each colony is described below in a format similar to that of Schmaltz (1981).

Colony 4026 contained one inactive cavity tree in 1980 (Schmaltz, 1981). When visited on 25 June, 1981, that cavity tree (4026A) appeared inactive, and no Red-cockaded Woodpecker roosted in the tree on 10 August. Two birds were observed foraging near 4026A on 28 November, and one of the pair roosted in the cavity. On 24 January, 1982, a second cavity tree (4026B) was located 0.3 km east of 4026A (Robert Murphy, pers. comm.). I observed a single Red-cockaded Woodpecker roost in 4026B on 24 January, 1982.

Colony 4055/62 contained two active cavity trees in 1980 (Schmaltz, 1981). Both cavity trees apeared inactive in 1981, and no birds were observed during visits on 30 May, 9 June, and 12 June. Extensive clearing of undergrowth and removal of large-diameter pines had occurred within the designated buffer zone at 4055/62A since Schmaltz's observation and may have resulted in colony abandonment.

Colony 4056 contained one cavity tree with no recent history of activity (Schmaltz, 1981). I did not locate the tree in 1981. If correctly mapped, the tree was in the vicinity of a recent clearcut and may have been blown over by wind.

Colony 4060 contained one inactive cavity tree in 1980 (Schmaltz, 1981) that was also inactive in 1981.

Colony 4061 contained one active cavity tree and several start holes in 1980, and a single Red-cockaded Woodpecker was observed (Schmaltz, 1981). In 1981, the colony contained two active trees, one inactive tree, and one tree with an inactive cavity start. One of the active trees (4061D) was near where Schmaltz (1981) reported several start holes, and may have been completed during 1980. A single Red-cockaded Woodpecker was observed foraging near 4061A on 9 June, 1981.

Colony 4077/80 contained two cavity trees in 1980 and was designated active (Schmaltz, 1981). I located a third cavity tree (4077/80A) 0.1 km. west of the westernmost mapped tree (4077/80B). On 6 February, two Red-cockaded Woodpeckers were observed near 4077/80B. One bird roosted in 4077/80B, which Schmaltz (1981) had designated inactive in 1980, and one flew to the west and roosted in 4077/80A. On 7 February, a single Red-cockaded Woodpecker roosted in 4077/80C, the easternmost tree which was active in 1980 (Schmaltz, 1981). No Red-cockaded Woodpecker roosted in 4077/80C on 9 April or 22 May, no fresh resin was visible, and the tree was dead, so it was declared inactive.

Colony 4079 was not described by Schmaltz (1981). One inactive cavity tree was located on a cliff approximately 0.8 km west of Bald Rock Cemetery and 0.2 km east of the Rockcastle River in Laurel County. The tree contained only one cavity with a poorly developed plate and few resin wells.

Colony 4086 was not described by Schmaltz (1981). A single inactive cavity tree located 5.5 km southwest of Keavy contained two start holes and one completed cavity.

Colony 5032 was active in 1980 and young were fledged from one of the three cavity trees (Schmaltz, 1981). In 1981, the colony contained eight cavity trees, all located by United States Forest Service personnel. Three of the eight trees were active in 1981 and one tree contained young (5032A). Two adults were observed feeding young on 21 May (Michael Hurst, pers. comm.), 2 June, and 5 June (pers. obs.). By 10 June, an undetermined number of young had fledged.

Colony 5050 contained one active (5050B) and one inactive (5050A) tree in 1980 (Schmaltz, 1981). Fresh resin flow indicated that 5050A was being used in 1981, and I observed a Red-cockaded Woodpecker roosting in the tree on 22 July and 5 September. I located a third cavity tree approximately 0.2 km to the east of 5050A and B. A Red-cockaded Woodpecker was observed leaving this tree on the morning of 1 January, 1981. An adult bird was observed incubating in 5050B on 2 May (pers. obs.) and on 12 May (Michael Hurst, pers. comm.). The incubation period in this species varies from 10 to 13 days (Ligon, 1970, Beckett, 1971, Ramey and Jackson, 1979), so the young probably hatched between 13-15 May. Young were heard calling from the cavity on 20 May, and the adults made frequent trips to the cavity to feed them (pers. obs.). Similar observations were made on 21 May (Michael Hurst, pers. comm.), 23, 28, 30 May, and 1 June (pers. obs.). On 5 June, the young had fledged (Michael Hurst, pers. comm.). Fledging occurred in a maximum of 24 days, which was consistent with Ligon (1970) and Beckett (1971), who found that fledging occurred 23-29 days after hatching. On 8 June and 17 June, three fledglings were observed near the two adults and consistently begged for food. On 8 July, 22 July, 15 August, and 5 September, one juvenile male and one juvenile female were observed foraging with the adults; the third juvenile of undetermined sex had disappeared.

Colony 5061 contained two inactive cavity trees in 1980 (Schmaltz, 1981). Both trees were also inactive in 1981.

Colony 6033 contained four inactive cavity trees in 1980. (Schmaltz, 1981). The colony was not located during this study.

Colony 6061 contained six cavity trees and was active in 1980 (Schmaltz, 1981). In 1981, an inactive cavity tree was located approximately 0.3 km to the southeast across Laurel Creek (Chester Stevens, pers. comm., pers. obs.). Two cavity trees were active and two Red-cockaded Woodpeckers were observed on the evening of 25 January. A single bird was heard calling during a visit on 23 May, but no young were observed.

Figure 1 illustrates changes in the number of cavity trees per colony from 1980 to 1981. The increases were attributable partially to increased Red-cockaded Woodpecker activity in some colonies (4026, 4061) and partially to more thorough surveying of the areas where cavity trees were known to exist (4077/80, 5032, 5050, 6061).

(Schmaltz (1981) observed 11 adult Red-cockaded Woodpeckers in 1980; I observed 13 in 1981 (Figure 2). The two Red-cockaded Woodpeckers observed in Colony 4026 may have been a recently formed pair. Colonies 5032 and 5050 each contained one additional bird in 1981. These may have been second-year birds that remained with the parents through the winter of 1980-1981. The abandonment of Colony 4055/62, as mentioned previously, was probably a result of logging within the established buffer zone.

Nesting was observed in 1981 in the same two colonies in which it had been observed by Schmaltz in 1980. Reproduction may have also occurred in other active colonies in unmapped cavity trees. Schmaltz (1981) did not attempt to count fledglings in 1980. I observed three fledglings in Colony 5050, but did not return to Colony 5032 to count fledglings.

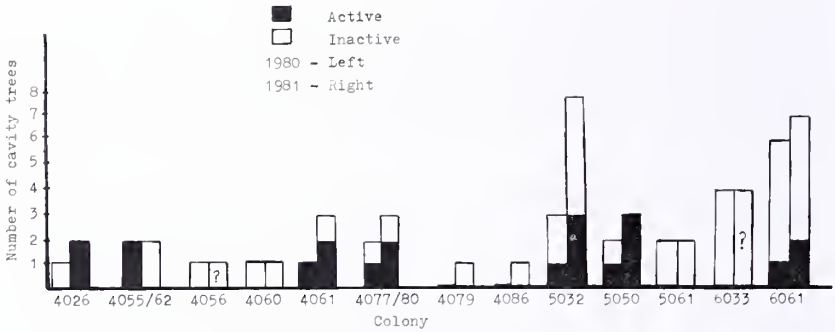

Figure 1. Number of Red-cockaded Woodpecker cavity trees observed on the Daniel Boone National Forest in 1980 (Schmaltz, 1981) and 1981.

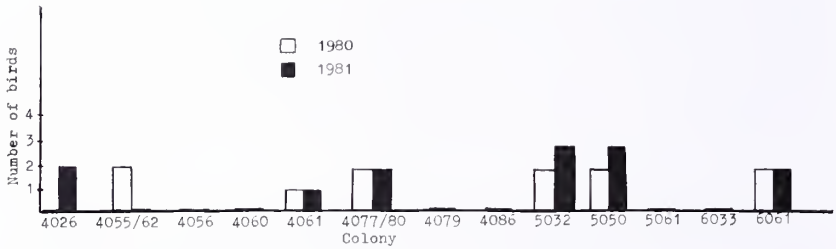

Figure 2. Number of adult Red-cockaded Woodpeckers observed on the Daniel Boone National Forest in 1980 (Schmaltz, 1981) and 1981.

This lack of data prevented a comparison between Red-cockaded Woodpecker reproductive success in 1980 and 1981.

A large percentage of the Daniel Boone National Forest has not been adequately surveyed for Red-cockaded Woodpecker activity. This fact prevented the estimation of population size. In order to accurately estimate the number of Red-cockaded Woodpeckers on the Daniel Boone National Forest, a thorough search for cavity trees should be conducted on the pine and pine-hardwood ridgetops. This task would be nearly impossible for a single individual, and would be best accomplished by the United States Forest Service in cooperation with birding organizations, wildlife classes, et cetera.

Currently, the United States Forest Service is monitoring the status of known colonies on the Daniel Boone National Forest (Schmaltz, 1981, Michael Hurst, pers. comm.). In order to accurately determine the dynamics of Kentucky's Red-cockaded Woodpecker population, annual monitoring must include 1) the number of active colonies present, 2) the number of adults in each colony, and 3) the number of young fledged at each colony. Reproductive status and the number of adults present should be determined by observing each cavity tree for one hour following sunrise or for one hour preceding sunset during the nesting season. If young are present, the adults will remain nearby and vocalizations will be

heard from the cavity (pers. obs.). This procedure should be repeated two or three times per tree per nesting season to obtain an accurate count. In this study, birds roosted in three cavity trees that had been classified as inactive in 1980 (Schmaltz, 1981), so every cavity tree with records of activity in at least the last two years should be monitored. The number of juveniles, if any, should be determined by following the clan for several hours after the young have fledged.

In addition, a study of the dispersal patterns of first and second-year birds would provide a basis for establishing corridors between colonies and would allow more accurate designation of colony acreages.

Project funding was obtained from the United States Fish and Wildlife Service, Office of Endangered Species. The following individuals provided valuable field assistance: Robert Altman, Kevin Flowers, James Harris, Michael Hurst, Philip Mastrangelo, Robert Murphy, Nancy Sferra, Douglas Stephens, and Chester Stevens. Thanks are also extended to William Romme, who reviewed this manuscript.

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THE SPRING MIGRATION OF 1982

Anne L. Stamm

It was a peculiar Spring. March was unusually warm with April-like temperatures, which averaged about three degrees above normal. This weather pattern brought flocks of Cedar Waxwings to Central Kentucky, the Great Egret to Danville, shorebirds to western counties, and the arrival of early Black-throated-green Warblers by mid-March. A tornado touched down in Shelbyville on March 20 up-rooting trees and demolishing buildings. Rainfall for the month was above average. Many low-lying farmlands in northwestern Hickman County were inundated. April, unlike March, was cold and averaged 4.6 degrees below normal. A tornado at Hazel and one at Sturgis on April 2 were followed by other severe thunderstorms all across the southern part of the state. Temperatures dipped to a record low of 27 degrees at Lexington on April 6. The following morning snow covered much of the state, with three inches at Henderson and lesser amounts elsewhere. A warm front in mid April brought hundreds of shorebirds, early records for the Least Tern and countless swallows to southwestern Kentucky. Warbler migration was delayed and disappointing to many of the observers. As a general rule, the various species passed through slowly. The weather in May was more of the summer type, with 80 to 85 degree temperatures on 24 of the 31 days.

Loons through Swans — Common Loons were scarce: singles at Louisville, April 11 (DN) and 14 (LR); Lake Cumberland, April 22 (GM); Lake Barkley, May 4-5 (BM *et al*); Kentucky Dam, May 23 (BPB, AB). Horned Grebe were scarce, although noted on six dates at Danville — no numbers indicated (FL). Pied-billed Grebe were present in small numbers at Burlington during March and April (LMc); and few elsewhere (m. ob.). Single Double-crested Cormorants were present May 2 at McAlpine Dam (LR) and May 8 in Boone County (LMc); five on May 8 at Kentucky Lake (JEr); but 75+ in Ballard, Hickman and Fulton Counties, May 5 (BM *et al*) and two at Lake #9, Fulton County, May 23 (BPB *et al*). Great Blue Heron were on the increase at Land Between the Lakes (CP). The earliest arrival date for the Green Heron was March 13 at Kentucky Lake (JEr). Little Blue Heron were recorded only in western Kentucky, with the majority in Ballard County: seven, April 16-17 (BPB); 15 plus on May 5 (BM *et al*); one on May 19 (FS, S); and about 30 on May 22 (BPB *et al*). The rare Cattle Egret was first sighted on April 17 at two locations: four at Yellowbank Wildlife Management Area (hereafter YWMA) (BM) and eight on Lake 9 (AB, BPB); and three in Fulton County, May 5 (BM *et al*). Encouraging were the reports of Great Egrets, although in small numbers; earliest arrival date, March 20 at Danville (FL); singles at East Bend Bottoms (northern Kentucky) on April 11 (LMc), YWMA, April 17 (BM) and at Falls of the Ohio, April 30 (LR); six at Lake #9 on April 17 (BPB, AB) and 10 there May 5 (BM *et al*); two at Lexington, May 8 and one there May 25 (DC). Two Snowy Egrets were present at Ballard Waterfowl Management Area (hereafter BWMA), May 5 (BM *et al*) and one at the Falls of the Ohio, May 26 (LR). Black-crowned Night Heron arrived late; an adult at Falls of Rough, April 17 (KC) and 92 at Falls of the Ohio on May 30 (LR).

Yellow-crowned Night Heron were sighted at four locations: singles along River Road, Louisville, April 14 (BPB); Fulton County, April 17 (AB, BPB); four to six at Lexington, May 19 (DC) and three at Falls of the Ohio, May 29 (FS, S). American Bittern are seldom reported and encouraging were the following records: three at Crooked Creek, April 22-23 (CP); and singles at Carpenter Lake, May 8 (M. Brown *fide* A. Powell); Green River Wildlife Management Area (hereafter GRWMA, May 16 (JEl) and at Goose Pond, May 18 (JH). The two Whistling Swan on a lake near the Webster and Henderson County line, near Sebree, March 9 were of special interest (Mike Wells *fide* HS).

Waterfowl — Canada Geese began migrating north in late February and early March (m. ob.); the large wintering population of 80,000 plus left BWMA by March 19-20 (TY); one pair remained in Boone County until April 23 (LMc); and a flock of 10 was seen as late as May 20 at Bend of the River (S). One White-fronted Goose was seen in Hickman Bottoms with 1000 Canada Geese on March 16 and 34 there the following day (BPB). Blue-winged Teal arrived late this spring, with first arrivals on May 14 at Lentz's Pond (DN, S, CG) and at Falls of the Ohio (LR); still present in small number in western Kentucky, May 10 (TY), May 19 (S) and May 22 (BPB *et al*). Twenty Pintail at East Bend, Boone County, March 13 was the high count there (LMc). A male Green-winged Teal at Open Pond, Fulton County, May 22 was a late straggler (BPB). American Widgeon were considered in "good numbers" at Burlington (LMc); small numbers elsewhere. A total of 17 American Wood Ducks was noted March 7 at Indian Hills swampy area (DN). Ring-necked Ducks reached a peak of 150 at East Bend, March 24 (LMc). Canvasback Ducks are usually found in small numbers, but 100 were seen March 3 at Kentucky Dam (CPN). Three Greater Scaup were present at Louisville April 13 (BM). Maximum counts of Lesser Scaup were: 350 at Louisville, March 14 (BBC); 300 there on March 24 (LR); and 250+ at Kentucky Lake, March 23 (S. FS) and 350+ Scaup species, March 3 at Kentucky Dam — too late in day to identify species (CPN). A Common Goldeneye at Barkley Lake, May 5, was late (BM *et al*). Another late straggler was an Old Squaw at Towhead Island, Louisville, April 10 (Keith Camburn *fide* Brian Anderson). Three Common Mergansers were still present at Barkley Lake, May 5 (BM *et al*). A flock of 20 Red-breasted Mergansers at Waitsboro Recreational Area, Lake Cumberland, Pulaski County, April 3, was the largest number reported (JEl); one to three remained on the Ohio River, Louisville, from March 14 to May 13 (DN) and one was still there May 29 (BPB).

Raptors — Turkey Vultures were noted quite frequently in most areas, but the maximum number was 32 in Boone County, May 8 (LMc). No hawk flights were reported. More and more KOS members are driving to western Kentucky to observe Mississippi Kites and those reported were: one at BWMA and two in Fulton County, May 5 (BM *et al*); one at Hickman area and three at Bend of the River, Fulton County, May 19 (S, FS); "about six" at BWMA, May 22, "several" in Hickman County and a few in Fulton County, May 23 (BPB *et al*). Bald Eagles remained until quite late: an immature was seen flying over Kentucky Lake, April 20 (JEr); one in Ballard County and in Fulton County, May 5 (BM *et al*); one at

Lake #9, May 23 (BPB *et al*). One Northern Harrier was observed at Burlington, April 10 (LMc); no others reported. Single Ospreys were recorded from April 2 to May 5 at the following locations: Oakhill Lake-Somerset area (JEl); Kentucky Lake (JEr); Lake #9 (BPB, AB); and Hematite Lake (CP).

Sandhill Cranes through Rails — Sandhill Crane migration was better than usual: 300 in south Hardin County, March 4 (AB); 50 in a field in southwest Jefferson County, March 11 (H. Watson *fide* BM, S); 21 over farm in eastern Jefferson County, March 12 (BPB); and three over Murray, March 23 (MM). Few Sora were reported: one on April 13 and another on May 10 in eastern Jefferson County (BPB) and one in BWMA, April 16 (AB, BPB). A single King Rail in Meade County (portion of Fort Knox), May 8 was exceptional (J. Wheatley *fide* BM).

Shorebirds — Shorebird migration was widespread, but the only large concentrations and good flights were found in western Kentucky. Semipalmated Plovers were first recorded on April 13 in Pulaski County (JEl) and the three birds at Louisville, April 25, provided an early local date (DN); also three to ten birds between April 17 and May 22 at four other locations (m. ob.); maximum number 12 plus at GRWMA, April 25 (JEl). Seventy-five American Golden Plover were first recorded in Hickman Bottoms, March 16-17 (BPB); three at Morganfield airport, March 28 (BPB, AB); "fairly abundant" in the Kentucky portion of Reelfoot Lake, April 17 (CP, JEr); and about 250, mostly in the bottoms of Fulton County, April 16-17 (BPB, AB); one still present there on May 5 (BM *et al*). Only two reports of the Black-bellied Plover: one heard in Fulton County, April 16-17 (AB, BPB); and one at Falls of the Ohio, May 22 (BM). American Woodcock were seen or heard from March 5 to May 22 in Jefferson, McCracken and Ballard counties (DN, BM *et al*, BPB *et al*, respectively). Upland Sandpipers, rare transients, were sighted at two locations: three in Fulton County, April 16-17 (BPB, AB); and five at Masterson's Station Park, Lexington, April 28 (DC). Solitary Sandpipers seemed more common than usual at Danville (FL); maximum number about 50 birds in scattered flocks in Fulton County, April 16-17 (BPB-AB). A single Willet was seen at Falls of the Ohio, May 28 and 29 and provided a late local record (LR). The Greater Yellowlegs was first observed on March 12 at Hamlin (JEr) and at Green River Lake, March 14 (JEl); 25 at Hickman Bottoms, March 17 (BPB); 20 plus at Valley Oak, Pulaski County, April 13 (JEl) and scattered flocks totaling 50 birds, the majority in Fulton County, April 16 and 17 (BPB, AB); "many" at Reelfoot (Kentucky portion), April 17 (CP, JEr); seven at Goose Pond, Hopkins County, April 24 (JH); four at Louisville, April 23 (S, FS); and two at Hays Kennedy Park, April 3 (DN). Earliest arrival date for the Lesser Yellowlegs was March 12 at Glasgow (RS); and the highest count was 300 for two days in Fulton County, April 16-17 (BPB, AB); the species was well represented statewide. Few Pectoral Sandpipers were recorded in Louisville this spring: high counts were in Fulton County on April 16 and 17 totaling 500 birds (AB, BPB). The White-rumped Sandpiper, a rare transient in Kentucky, made its appearance at a number of locations: two at GRWMA, April 25 (JEl); one at Hickman Creek Sewage Plant, Jessamine County, May

19 (DC); 35-40 in Hickman Bottoms, Fulton County, May 22 (DC, BPB *et al*) and three at Henderson (RD). Least Sandpipers were present from April 17 to May 22 from Boyle County to Fulton County in small numbers, although they were considered more numerous than usual at Danville (FL); highest count was 50 on May 5, with most of the birds in Fulton County (BM *et al*). A flock of about eight Dunlin in Fulton County on May 5 was of interest (BM *et al*) as were the four at Henderson, May 8 (RD). The only Short-billed Dowitchers were the five on April 17 and 22 on May 1 in Fulton County (CP, JEr), and the 13 at Falls of the Ohio (DN, with Fritz Hilton). A flock of Semipalmated Sandpipers estimated at about 400 in Fulton County, May 22 was unusual (BPB, AB *et al*).

Gulls and Terns — A second-year Iceland Gull was documented in the Falls of the Ohio area, March 30 (LR). Fifty to seventy-five Herring Gulls were still present at both Kentucky and Barkley Dams, March 23 (S, FS); two at Kentucky Dam, May 20 (S) and one at Falls of the Ohio, May 28 was a late departure date (LR). Five hundred to six hundred Ring-billed Gulls were present at Kentucky Dam and at Barkley Dam, March 23, but only 200 plus at each place two days later (S, FS); 150 at Kentucky Lake, May 5 (BM *et al*); and last recorded there with 50 birds on May 23 (BPB *et al*). A Laughing Gull documented at the Kentucky Dam, Lyon County area, May 4 was noteworthy (BM *et al*). An interesting record was the two Franklin Gulls at the Falls of the Ohio, May 29 (BPB, m.o.b). Bonaparte's Gulls were recorded from Kentucky Dam to GRWMA from March 27 to May 5, with 32 at East Bend (northern Kentucky) as the highest count (LMc). Only small numbers of Forster's Terns passed through from April 14 to May 8 (m.ob.), although more widespread than the Common Tern. The latter species was found at three locations: Falls of the Ohio (DN, AB), Hamlin (JEr) and Kentucky Dam from April 14 to May 23; highest count at the dam was 35 (BPB *et al*). Twelve Least Terns were seen over the cove at Kentucky Lake area, April 14 and established an early state record (JEr); six along Mississippi River at Lake #9, May 23 (BPB *et al*). Caspian Terns arrived at Louisville (LR) and on a cove of Kentucky Lake (JEr) on April 14; five at Kentucky Dam, May 4-5 (BM *et al*) and seven at Falls of the Ohio, May 8 (DN, AB). Black Terns were scarce: one to three birds reported at Kentucky Dam and Barkley Dam, May 4, 5, and 23 (BPB *et al*).

Cuckoos through Woodpeckers — Yellow-billed Cuckoos were first recorded at Elizabethtown on April 14 (GE) and at Louisville on April 22 providing an early local record (BS); low numbers at Burlington (LMc); "about average" at Danville (FL) and few in the Louisville area. (S). Black-billed Cuckoos were scarce: reported only from May 9 to 11 at Hounz Park, Creason Park, Brigadoon Farm at Glasgow and Burlington (S, JEl, RS, LMc, respectively). A total of 14 Barred Owls were heard during a two hour period along Blood River, May 8 (JEr). A Saw-whet Owl was a pleasant surprise to Jake Doughty when one hit his car along Route 22 near Springdale, March 31. The bird was able to fly on its own after being temporarily stunned (*fide* BM). A Chuck-will's-widow was heard before dawn, April 16 in Louisville (DN). March 31 was the arrival date for the Whip-poor-will at Hamlin (JEr). Appreciable decreases were

noted in the Common Nighthawk at Danville (FL) and at Louisville (S). Chimney Swifts were late in arriving; first recorded at Louisville, April 12 (LS); number increased by April 23 when a flock of 75 noted in Seneca Park (S). First arrival date for the Ruby-throated Hummingbird was April 23 at Falls of the Rough (KC); numbers low at Burlington (LMc). Yellow-shafted Flickers "appeared down" at Danville (FL). Few Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were reported.

Flycatchers through Swallows — The flycatcher migration in Louisville was "good" and the empidonax "more numerous than usual" beginning April 20 (BS). The Eastern Kingbird flight was plentiful with 43 counted on May 8 in the Hamlin area (JEr). Two early state records for the Acadian Flycatcher were noted: April 12 at Towhead Island (AB) and Falls of the Rough, April 17 (KC). A Willow Flycatcher at Creason Park, May 4 was early and tied the local 1980 record (BS). The song of the Alder Flycatcher was heard on May 24, 25, 26, 27, with possibly four birds on May 25 on Surrey Hill farm, Louisville (BPB). A small number of Least Flycatchers were heard in a number of Louisville locations from May 6 to May 22 (BS, S, BM) and also reported at Fort Wright May 9 (EG). The Olive-sided Flycatcher was reported only from Creason Park, May 1-9 (BS, JEl). The Tree Swallow arrived on schedule from March 17 to 28 in small numbers, but migration was in full swing April 16-17 when a total of 1000 was estimated for the two days, with most of the birds in Fulton County (BPB, AB). Small numbers of Bank Swallows were reported from Ballard, Fulton (AB, BPB), Kenton (EG), and Hickman counties (S). Rough-winged Swallows were later than usual and recorded first at Louisville on April 10 (LR) and at Falls of Rough on April 16 (KOS); numbers increased and a total of approximately 200 was counted in Ballard and Fulton counties for the two-day period of April 16-17 (BPB, AB). Barn Swallows arrived late, too: March 22 at Hamlin (JEr); Danville, March 27 (FL); Eubank on March 30 (JEl); Laurel County, April 4 (LS); but good flights on April 16 and 17 when 500 were seen in Ballard and Fulton counties on the two days (AB, BPB). The large flocks of Cliff Swallows were also in western Kentucky, with a maximum count of 750 for both days, April 16-17 (BPB, AB); but interesting migration records were also from Taylor, Adair (JEl) and Edmonson counties (RS).

Crows through Thrushes — Several reports of the Fish Crow were received and all from Fulton County: March 16-17 about twelve (BPB); six on April 16-17 (AB, BPB); and one May 19 (S). A singing House Wren in the Louisville area on March 1 was unusual (LS). It was encouraging to note that 13 Winter Wrens were found in three groups at Murray, March 27 (CP); one at Louisville lingered until May 8 (AB). The Bewick's Wren was reported from six locations, with the majority in western Kentucky. The Carolina Wren was doing much better, but numbers still low in some areas. A Long-billed Marsh Wren was present at Louisville on May 8 (AB). The elusive Sedge Wren was observed on Surrey Hill farm from April 29 to May 10 (BPB). Brown Thrashers and Mockingbirds were above average in numbers at Danville (FL). Wood Thrushes were scarce in Seneca and Cherokee Parks in Louisville (S) and at Danville (FL). The Swainson's Thrush was "common" at Fort Wright

on May 8 and 9 (EG); seven were beneath a tree in Cave Hill Cemetery, May 8 (MS); five at Brigadoon farm, Glasgow, May 9 (RS); departure date at Madisonville, May 18 (JH). The Veery was "more numerous than usual" in Clark and Creason Parks between April 30 and mid-May (BS). The Eastern Bluebird was much more numerous in most areas.

Gnatcatcher through Vireos — A Blue-gray Gnatcatcher at Glasgow on March 20 tied our earliest state record (RS). A Ruby-crowned Kinglet was still present at Louisville, May 19 — a late local record (BPB). Small flocks totaling about 100 Water Pipits were seen in Fulton County on March 17 (BPB). Cedar Waxwings were exceptionally common at Danville in March (FL), and flocks of 100 were found in various locations in Louisville, March 31 through early April (A. Cain *fide* MS, BS, WJ). Single Loggerhead Shrikes were seen at six locations May 18-20 in Caldwell, Livingston, McCracken and Graves counties (S, FS) and two records in Boyle County during the period (FL). The Vireo migration was "about normal" at Danville (FL) and "good" at Louisville, with six species on May 1, but "none in numbers, except the Red-eyed" (BS). A Bell's Vireo was seen and heard in Ballard County, May 19 (S, FS); and a pair in McCracken County, May 22 (DC, BPB). Two Solitary Vireos in the Red River Gorge, April 1, were fairly early (DC).

Warblers — In general, warbler migration was not exciting, numbers were low and no major waves recorded. A Prothonotary Warbler on April 29 at Big Clifty Creek, Pulaski County was of special interest (JEl). The Golden-winged Warbler, a fairly uncommon transient in spring, was observed at Danville (FL) and at Creason Park (DN). Orange-crowned Warblers were present at two Louisville locations: one to two birds at Surrey Hill farm April 25-May 1 (BPB) and two at Hounz Park, May 11 (S, FS). Cape May Warblers were noted in good numbers at Danville (FL) and at Louisville in early May (BPB). The Black-throated Blue Warblers reported were singles at Louisville on May 1, 2, 8 and 11 (BPB). Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warblers were common at Creason Park, March 17 (DN) and at Seneca Park, April 24 (S *et al*). Black-throated Green Warblers arrived early and remained late: several singing in McCreary County on March 20 and 21 (NS and R. Bauman); one in Clark Park, Louisville, June 2, which established a late local record (BS). A flight of 100 Cerulean Warblers was seen near the ferry at Mammoth Cave National Park, May 1 (DN with Dr. J. R. Noonan). Bay-breasted Warblers were encountered in good numbers at Danville (FL). Black Poll Warblers arrived earlier than usual: one at Falls of Rough, April 17 (KC) and April 20 at Madisonville (JH); a small group of eight in a tree at Cave Hill Cemetery, May 8 was exciting to the observers (MS *et al*). The Pine Warbler arrived as early as March 10 at Hamlin (JEr), March 22 at Madisonville (JH) and April 3 and 4 in McCreary County (LS). The arrival date for the Louisiana Waterthrush at Hamlin was March 31 (JEr); breeding observed in Boone County (*fide* LMc). One to two Connecticut Warblers were reported at Louisville between May 14 and 19 (BPB) and about eight Mourning Warbler there May 12-26 (BPB); one at Madisonville on May 26 (JH). The Yellow-breasted Chat is "definitely decreasing in the (Hopkins) County," according to James Hancock, who studied the birds there for almost 40 years. American Redstarts were in

low numbers at Danville (FL) and Louisville (S) and none were recorded at Madisonville (JH); but a second-year male was a late straggler at Louisville on June 2 (BS).

Bobolinks through Tanagers — A flock of 100 Bobolinks was seen in Bullitt County and another flock of 80 in south Jefferson County on May 8 (DP); twenty at Calloway County on the same date (JEr); smaller numbers in Fulton (AB, BPB), Boyle (FL), and Oldham counties (S); several remained at the latter two locations through the period. A Western Meadowlark was heard and seen in Lyon County, March 23 (S, FS). Numbers for the Eastern Meadowlark appeared to be up at Fort Wright (EG). There were numerous sightings of the Baltimore Oriole along the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers in western Kentucky, May 18-20 (S, FS), while at Danville, they were "less common" than in previous years (FL). Small flocks of Brewer's Blackbirds, probably totaling 40, were found in Fulton County on March 17 (BPB) and also recorded at Falls of Rough area on April 17 (KOS). Summer Tanagers appeared to be scarce in the Louisville area (BS, S) and numbers were low in western Kentucky during May 23-25 (S).

Grosbeaks, Finches and Sparrows — Rose-breasted Grosbeaks were in lower numbers than previous years at Louisville (BS, S). Blue Grosbeaks were widespread, but only one to three birds at each sighting in the following counties: Ballard (S, FS), Calloway (MM), Carlisle (S, FS), Hopkins, (JH), Jefferson (JR, BPB), Livingston (S, FS), Meade (DS), Oldham (BPB), and Pulaski (JEl). Migration of the Indigo Bunting was good between May 8 to 10 at Fort Wright (EG), Louisville (BS) and at Hamlin, where over 100 birds, with two flocks of 20 plus in each, recorded on May 8 (JEr). The Dickcissel, which was previously reported at a feeding station at Murray in late February, remained until March 13 (CP). The species was scarce in the Louisville area, but fairly common in various locations in Fulton and Hickman counties on May 5 (BM *et al*) and May 19 (S, FS) and numbers had increased there and in Ballard County by May 22-23 (BPB *et al*). A few Evening Grosbeaks were present during the period: one at Hematite Lake, March 3 (CP) and seven at Eubank, March 19 (JEl). Largest concentrations of Purple Finches were at Big Pond Sanctuary in mid-April and a few lingered until May 25 (KC). The House Finch continues to spread and recently moved into the following counties: Barren (RS), Boone (LMc), Casey (JEl) and Warren (ASti). The large winter flock of 150+ at Eubank, March 14, left the area in April and only two remained on April 14 (JEl). Pine Siskins were reported more frequently in April as they moved northward, but where they had been at feeding stations much of the winter they remaind fairly late: May 12 at Louisville (Munsey *fide* S) and at Falls of Rough, May 29 (KC). A flock of 50 American Goldfinch indicated migration movement in Clark Park in mid-April (BS). White-winged Crossbills were also on the move when 25 to 34 were seen flying over Bernheim Forest on March 24 (LS); a male was discovered at a thistle feeder in east Louisville, where it remained for several days and was last observed on May 9 (Robert Wieland). Grasshopper Sparrows were making a comeback at Danville (FL) and two were reported in south Jefferson County, May 8 (DP). A single Lark Sparrow at Louisville on

April 29 was an interesting record (BPB). Another rarity was the Bachman's Sparrow, near Hamlin, May 8 (JEr). The Chipping Sparrow was first recorded at Creason Park on March 17 (DN), March 20 at Glasgow (RS), and Hamlin, March 27; A few Lincoln Sparrows were recorded: Ballard (BM); Jefferson (BS) and Boone (LMc) counties.

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THE 1982 BALD EAGLE COUNT IN KENTUCKY

Anne L. Stamm and James S. Durell

The 1982 statewide Bald Eagle count was done in cooperation with the National Wildlife Federation Raptor Information Center and in conjunction with the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service Waterfowl Census. The time of the count was set for January 2-16, with the target date as January 9, 1982. James S. Durrell, assistant director, Kentucky Division of Game Management, served as the state coordinator.

Groups participating were the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife biologists, TVA personnel, U.S. Corps of Engineers, U.S. Forestry Service, National and State Park personnel, Kentucky Ornithological Society and a few interested individuals. Eighty-five persons helped in this project.

All major bodies of water were covered from the Mississippi and Ohio Rivers across the state to Dewey and Fishtrap Lakes in Floyd and Pike counties. Twelve parties checked for eagles on the target date, seven the previous day and five on January 6. A total of 39 parties worked through January 12 and three parties checked between January 13-15.

The weather had been mild up until the target date, when snow began falling and icy roads caused some observers to start out late; however, by noon the sky was clear and visibilty was unusually good. Most bodies of water where eagles frequent were open and, although prey was not plentiful, the survey estimates were higher than in previous years.

Many of the areas were covered by more than one party, but on different dates. Therefore, sightings were carefully screened so as to avoid duplication. The census revealed a count of 139 Bald Eagles: 78 adults and 61 immatures. Three Golden Eagles were noted: two in Ballard County and one in Owen County; and three unclassified.

Although no eagles were seen at Grayson Lake during the count period, it was interesting that a mature Bald Eagle was observed feeding on carrion (a road-killed dog), January 21 and 22, "about a mile from the Grayson Lake project boundary" (McCormick). An adult Bald Eagle was also sighted at Cave Run Lake as early as December 10 and an immature there on December 13 (Surmont, Kornman). And while only one adult and one immature were sighted at Laurel Lake during the census period, three adults and one immature were seen there in February (Peek).

It is encouraging to note that the lakes in south central and eastern Kentucky are being utilized by the wintering population of Bald Eagles.

Below is a table showing the specific data for the census conducted this winter.

BALD EAGLES SIGHTED JANUARY 2-16, 1982 IN KENTUCKY

Census Routes	Adults	Imm.	Total
Tennessee line north along Mississippi River, Fulton County, State line to southern Ballard County	18	10	28
Ballard Waterfowl Management Area, LaCenter Western Wildlife Area, McCracken County	24	19	43
Ohio River, Paducah to Wabash River Tennessee line to Paducah, Bayou De Chien, Obion and Mayfield Creek Bottoms Paducah to North Livingston County (Golconda)	8	6	14
Barkley, Kentucky and Reelfoot Lakes Land Between the Lakes Lake Barkley	9	8	17
Owensboro to North Livingston County (Golconda) (by plane)	2	1	3
Yellowbank Wildlife Area (Breckinridge County) Ohio River at Owensboro	0	0	0
Louisville to West Point, along the Ohio River including Doe Lake and west of Brandenburg to Mauckport Bridge Otter Creek Park	1	2	3
Bernheim Forest		1	1
Owensboro to Boone County			0
Green River Lake — None on Herrington Lake	2	1	3

Louisville to Westport (by boat)			
Louisville to Westport (by car) along the Ohio River			0
Ohio River, Westport, Oldham County to Markland Dam			
Ohio River, west of Cincinnati to Markland Dam			0
Meldahl Dam (Bracken County)			0
Rough River Dam Area, Breckinridge County			
Transient Lakes, South of Bowling Green			
Barren River Lake			
Rough, Nolin, Barren River Lakes (by air)			0
Woodford County, east bank of Kentucky River			
Kentucky River, Owen County			0
Marion-Casey County line			0
Dale Hollow Lake	5	9	14
Cave Run Lake			
Minor Clark Fish Hatchery	1		1
Grayson Lake (Jan. 10)			
Grayson Lake (Jan. 6 - different areas)			0
Wolf Creek Dam (below the dam)			
Wolf Creek Dam			
Wolf Creek - upstream to Pulaski County			
Lake Cumberland			
Fishing Creek, East Wayne County to Burnside (by boat)	7	3	10
Alum Ford, Yahoo Falls, Big South Fork, Cumberland River			
Buckhorn Lake			
Carr Fork, Dewey and Fishtrap Lakes			0
Laurel Lake	1	1	2
Mammoth Cave National Park			0
	78	61	139

Observers were asked to report any hawks encountered during the survey. The list indicated Kestrels were doing very well and Red-shouldered Hawks, as expected, in low numbers. The hawks sighted were: Cooper's 2; Red- tailed, 38; Red-shouldered, 9; Marsh 6; and Kestrel, 73.

The coordinator wishes to thank the participants and to request their continued cooperation next year.

— 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222 and Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Service, Frankfort 40601.

FIELD NOTES

A WINTERING LONG-EARED OWL (ASIO OTUS) IN LOUISVILLE, KENTUCKY

During the months of January and February, 1982 (approximately January 5, 1982 to February 23, 1982) a Long-eared Owl *(Asio otus)* spent nearly every day roosting in an Eastern Hemlock *(Tsuga canadensis)* in the front yard of Mr. and Mrs. Jerry Kazunas at 2025 Lauderdale Avenue, Louisville, Jefferson County, Kentucky, a location in a residential neighborhood. The owl was observed by many people and gave no indication of alarm at the attention it attracted.

The Long-eared Owl has been reported only rarely in Kentucky (Mengel, R. M. 1965. The Birds of Kentucky, AOU Monograph No. 3, pp. 280-281) and this is only the third confirmed sighting in the Louisville region (personal communication, Mrs. F. W. Stamm, regional compiler for *American Birds*). The other two observations were November 1, 1941 and April 30, 1979. Monroe (B. L., Jr. 1976. Birds of the Louisville Region. The Kentucky Warbler 52:52) called it an accidental winter visitant to this area.

A few pellet fragments recovered under the roost tree revealed that this owl had eaten mostly small birds, primarily Northern Cardinals *(Cardinalis cardinalis)*. An analysis of these remains is being done and will be included in a future report on the feeding habits of the owls of Kentucky.

The presence of this unusual bird in Louisville in winter, while interesting, is not to be taken as an indication of any trend in its distribution. Birds in general and raptors in particular have a habit of turning up in unexpected places, often driven by unusual weather conditions at their normal wintering grounds. This bird's appearance does merit attention in that it points out the need for careful attention for unexpected birds in both likely habitat (in this case, coniferous woodlands) and unlikely habitat (urban neighborhoods).

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SHORT-EARED OWLS USE RECLAIMED SURFACE MINE

On 8 April 1982 at about 1500 hours, five Short-eared Owls *(Asio flammeus)* were observed flying low over a reclaimed surface coal mine in Breathitt County (Shackallen Mine, Press Howard Fork, Falcon Coal Company). One individual was flushed near an impoundment as we approached in our vehicles. A few minutes later, four more owls flew across the field 50 to 100 meters away.

Use of reclaimed surface mines by Short-eared Owls during migration is unknown in Kentucky. (*The Birds of Kentucky*, 1965) reported two eastern Kentucky records — one from nearby Floyd County and another from Rowan County further to the north. Monroe (*Ky. Warbler*, 45:47-56, 1969) lists these owls as occurring on the Cumberland Plateau. Records of

migrant Short-eared Owls in Kentucky are sparse. Yearly there are only a few reports. For example, this species sometimes will spend the winter at Masterson's Park outside of Lexington.

The significance of this report is two-fold. First, it provides additional information about the date and location of this species of owl in Kentucky. Secondly, Short-eared Owls are added to the growing list of species which have become users of reclaimed mountain-top grasslands created by mining of coal in eastern Kentucky.

The information reported here (82-8-110) is in connection with Kentucky Agricultural Experiment Station Project No. 624 and is published with the approval of the Director.

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THE YELLOW-HEADED BLACKBIRD IN KENTUCKY: FIRST REPORTED CAPTURE AND PREVIOUS SIGHT RECORDS

While trapping Starlings *(Sturnus vulgaris)* with Kniffin collapsible traps (Reeves et al. 1968) baited with cracked corn on 19 August 1981, I captured a female Yellow-headed Blackbird *(Xanthocephalus xanthocephalus)* about one km south of Auburn, Logan County, Kentucky. The bird weighed 51 grams and had a wing cord of 112mm. An attempt to age the bird by skull ossification was unsuccessful. Because of a lack of banding equipment at the capture site, I transported the bird 24 km to Bowling Green in Warren County, where it was banded, photographed, and released.

A review of banding and recoverd data, furnished by the Bird Banding Laboratory, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Laurel, Maryland yielded no bandings nor recoveries of Yellow-headed Blackbirds in Kentucky. A review of published literature on sightings of Yellow-headed Blackbirds revealed only six sightings of Yellow-headed Blackbirds in Kentucky. The first sighting was on 12 April 1933 when a 'flock' of unstated size or sex was observed in Rowan County in eastern Kentucky (Barbour 1952). Four separate sightings of single male Yellow-headed Blackbirds in Jefferson County were reported on 19 April 1940 (Brecher 1940), 13 October 1952 (Stamm 1952), 19 May 1963 (Horner 1963), and 19 April 1973 (Harm 1973). The most recent sighting was a single male seen in Barren County on 2 October 1976 (Mason 1976). The Yellow-headed Blackbird recorded here is the first reported capture of this species and the first reported female in Kentucky, the 1933 report of a 'flock' not withstanding.

Recent articles (Foy 1981, Heibrum et al. 1981) have alluded to wintering populations of Yellow-headed Blackbirds on the eastern coast of the United States. If Yellow-headed Blackbirds are indeed wintering in the eastern United States, Kentucky birders may look forward to increased opportunities to observe this western species.

I thank M. K. Klimkiewicz for her assistance in obtaining information on band recoveries and the staff of the Kentucky Research Station, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Bowling Green, Kentucky for their suggestions and review of this note.

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Membership as of July 1, 1982.

Members are urged to report errors in the membership roll to the Secretary-Treasurer.

EXCHANGES

Auk, The (American Ornithologists' Union, Ithaca, New York)

Bird Watcher's Digest (Published at Marietta, Ohio)

Cassina (Delaware Valley Ornithological Club, Newton, Pennsylvania)

Chat (Carolina Bird Club, Hillsboro, North Carolina

Colorado Field Ornithologist (c/o High Kenery, Editor, 869 Milwaukee Street, Denver, Colorado 80206)

Condor (Cooper Ornithological Club, Los Angeles, California)

Florida Field Naturalist (Florida Ornithological Society, Lake Placid, Florida 33852)

Florida Naturalist (Florida Audubon Society, Maitland, Florida)

Indiana Audubon Quarterly (Indiana Audubon Society, Indianapolis, Indiana)

Iowa Bird Life (Iowa Ornithologists' Union, Davenport, Iowa)

Jack Pine Warbler (Michigan Audubon Society, Kalamazoo, Michigan)

Kingbird (Federation of New York State Bird Clubs, Inc., Albany, New York

Living Bird, The (Cornell Laboratory of Ornithology, Ithaca, New York)

Loon, The (Minnesota Ornithologists' Union, Minneapolis, Minnesota)

Man and Nature (Massachusetts Audubon Society, Boston Massachusetts)

Migrant (Tennessee Ornithological Society, Elizabethtown, Tennessee)

Nebraska Bird Review (Nebraska Ornithologists' Union, Lincoln Nebraska)

New Hampshire Audubon Quarterly (Audubon Society of New Hampshire, Walpole, New Hampshire)

Oriole (Georgia Ornithological Society, Decatur, Georgia)

Passenger Pigeon (Wisconsin Society for Ornithology, Madison Wisconsin)

Raven (Virginia Society of Ornithology, Lexington, Virginia)

Redstart (Brooks Bird Club, Inc., Wheeling, West Virginia)

South Dakota Bird Notes (South Dakota Ornithologists' Union, Huron, South Dakota)

Wildlife Review (U.S. Fish & Wildlife Service, Laurel, Maryland)

Wilson Bulletin (Wilson Ornithological Society, Ann Arbor, Michigan)

Zoological Society of London Proceedings, REPRINTS (Published by Society of London, Regent's Park, London NW 1)

U.S. National Museum (Washington, D.C.)

NEWS AND VIEWS

Fall Meeting at Cumberland Falls State Park

Our Fall Meeting will take place at Cumberland Falls State Park, one of our favorite meeting sites, October 1, 2, and 3. This is an excellent birding area with perhaps a field trip to the nesting site of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker. This would be a good time to plan your vacation and spend an extra day visiting the World's Fair at Knoxville.

NEST RECORD CARDS

Those who have completed nest records are urged to bring them to the fall meeting or to mail them to Mrs. Anne Stamm at your earliest convenience.

The Kentucky Warbler

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OUR COVER

We are indebted to our staff artist, Ray Harm, for the excellent reproduction of the Saw-whet Owl.

WESTERN KENTUCKY OBSERVATIONS

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. and Alan Barron

During the past year and a half, we have had the opportunity to make a number of trips to the Jackson Purchase region of the state. Below is a summary of observations that have been made with comments on identification, habitats, and status of birds when appropriate.

The avifauna of this area has been discussed by Mengel (1965), Croft and Rowe (1966), Able (1967), and Gray (1967). Part of the purpose of this article will be to provide comparisons between what was observed by them and what we observed some fifteen to twenty years later.

On June 3-5, 1980, Palmer-Ball made an initial trip to McCracken and Ballard Counties accompanying Dr. Stuart Neff and Paul Barker of the Water Resources Laboratory of the University of Louisville in preparation for field work to be done for the Corps of Engineers.

On June 3rd, approximately 15 Black Terns *(Chlidonias niger)* were observed off the downtown boat ramp at Paducah as they hawked for prey over the water with scores of swallows. These birds were presumed to be late migrants since Mengel gives June 16 as a late date for spring migrants.

On June 4th, a single Mississippi Kite *(Ictinia mississippiensis)* was observed along the Kentucky bank of the Ohio River across from Cairo, Illinois.

On all three days many Barn Swallows *(Riparia riparia)* and Tree Swallows *(Iridoprocne bicolor)* were observed in the two counties. Bank Swallows were present along virtually the entire stretch of the Ohio River that was visited between Paducah and Cairo, and they seemed to be utilizing every suitable portion of the bank for nesting in this stretch. Colonies were specifically located within two miles upstream and downstream from the Paducah boat ramp and at Turner's Landing on the Ballard County Wildlife Management Area (hereafter BCMWA). Mengel listed only three known breeding colonies of this species in the state, the closest being in Union County. Tree Swallows were observed flying over the Ohio River in small groups, but most were encountered over the sloughs and ponds on the BCWMA. Here they were nesting quite commonly and several nest cavities were located. Birds observed along the river were probably nesting in dead trees along the bank. Mengel did not find Tree Swallows nesting in the purchase region in his field work of 1947-51, nor did Croft, Rowe, and Able. This population is certainly a part of the recent southward range expansion that has taken place throughout the state.

From June 17-22, 1980, Palmer-Ball and Alan Barron returned to this area to complete a study of the breeding birds of the area for the Corps of Engineers. The study area included only the areas immediately adjacent to the Ohio River, but two side trips were taken to the Mississippi flood plain of Fulton and Hickman Counties.

Both Little Blue Herons *(Florida caerulea)* and Great Blue Herons *(Ardea herodias)* proved to be quite common on the BCWMA and both species were suspected of nesting in the immediate vicinity; however, other than their presence at this time of the year, no evidence could be found of nesting.

Twice we observed female Hooded Mergansers *(Lophodytes cucullatus)* on sloughs of the BCWMA, and it is likely that this species is a fairly common nester in this area. A group of five females or immatures near Lake No. 9 in Fulton County on June 19th probably indicated breeding in that area. Able also reported this species from Fulton County, perhaps from the same slough, while Mengel listed scattered summer reports of the species, but only Louisville for positive nesting.

On June 18th, a Willow Flycatcher *(Empidonax traillii)* was heard singing in a dense thicket alongside a backwater slough in Ballard County near the U.S.-51/62 bridge to Cairo, Illinois. Mengel listed no definite summer records for this species from the Jackson Purchase.

Once again Tree Swallows were observed over many of the sloughs on the BCWMA. At least two groups of fledged young being out of the nest were observed.

The many dead and dying trees in the sloughs provided limitless habitat for cavity nesting species, and all of the nesting woodpeckers, especially Red-headed Woodpeckers *(Melanerpes erythrocephalus)*, were found in good numbers in this habitat. In addition, other cavity nesters like the Prothonotary Warbler *(Protonotaria citrea)*, Great Crested Flycatcher *(Myiarchus crinitus)*, Carolina Chickadee *(Parus carolinensis)*, Tufted Titmouse *(P. bicolor)*, and White-breasted Nuthatch *(Sitta carolinensis)* were widespread as nesting species in these areas. Even the Chimney Swift *(Chaetura pelagica)*, a species which seems to have shifted almost entirely to human structures for nesting, was suspected of nesting in natural cavities because of their constant association with this slough habitat, especially since there were very few houses and other buildings in the vicinity.

Barred Owls *(Strix varia)* were observed frequently in the floodplain forests of the study area. This species probably approaches its maximum breeding density in the wet woods along the Ohio River.

Several small groups of Mississippi Kites were observed in Hickman and Fulton Counties on June 18 and 19. The Chalk Bluff Road in Hickman County and the levee road just north of the Tennessee line in Fulton County were the best spots for observing this beautiful species. The range of the Mississippi Kite does not seem to have expanded since its reappearance in the state in the late sixties.

No nesting colonies of Least Terns *(Sterna albifrons)* were located but at least four adult birds were observed feeding over sloughs along the Mississippi River in Fulton County at the Lake No. 9 pumping station. The large sandbars along the Mississippi River in Fulton and Hickman Counties should still be supporting small numbers of nesting birds as Mengel reported.

On June 20 and 21 at least four singing male Bell's Vireos *(Vireo bellii)* were found in McCracken County, two on the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area, and two just south of the Shawnee Steam Plant settling basins. Charles P. Nicholson reported (1981) two pairs on territory, and one nest located on June 26, 1980, approximately one-half mile from the site where we found two of the singing males near the Shawnee Steam Plant. We had searched for several hours on both days, and although all four males seemed very territorial, we found no evidence of the presence of females, and the only nest we could locate was one that a male had nearly completed, seemingly, by himself. This population, although its status seems uncertain, represents the first summering birds in the state.

The nest that we located was approximately 3½ feet off the ground and suspended between two twigs of a sumac bush. The habitat in both spots where Bell's Vireos were seen was overgrown fields with a spotting of dense stands of sumac, saplings, and briars. Other characteristic breeding species in this habitat were Blue Grosbeak *(Guiraca caerulea)*, Yellow-breasted Chat *(Icteria virens)*, Common Yellowthroat *(Geothlypis trichas)*, Field Sparrow *(Spizella pusilla)*, Orchard Oriole *(Icterus spurius)*, Gray Catbird *(Dumetella carolinensis)*, and Indigo Bunting *(Passerina cyanea)*. Interestingly, we did not note any White-eyed Vireos *(Vireo griseus)* in the immediate vicinity of the Bell's Vireos.

On August 23, 1980, Palmer-Ball, Barron, and Alan Temple visited Fulton, Hickman, Carlisle, and Ballard Counties in search of migrant shorebirds. Reward came in the form of two very large flocks of mixed waterbirds, one at Lake No. 9 in Fulton County, and the other on the BCWMA where most of the birds were concentrated on Mitchell Lake. Both lakes were at low levels because of a dry summer and provided excellent shallow pools and mudflats on which the shorebirds were feeding. Although no "surprises" were discovered, the shorebird flocks were the largest any of us had seen in the state and were strikingly similar to those reported by Able and Gray. Table 1 summarizes the waterbirds observed at these two spots.

Also quite conspicuous were the numbers of swallows which were gathering in large groups, especially on the power lines in the flood-plain in Fulton County near the levee. These flocks of hundreds of birds were very similar to those described by Able with many Rough-winged *(Stelgidopteryx ruficollis)* and Tree Swallows.

Mississippi Kites were still present along the levee in Fulton County where at least six were observed sailing over the cottonwoods along the Mississippi River.

On February 28 and March 1, 1981, Palmer-Ball, Barron, and Davy Chai went to Fulton County to collect fish for the University of Louisville. Only a few casual observations were made, but a large flock of migrant Vesper Sparrows *(Pooecetes gramineus)* and a flock of approximately 5,000 Canada Geese *(Branta canadensis)* were noteworthy.

On April 9, 1981, Palmer-Ball made another collecting trip for fish with graduate students from the University of Louisville to the bottomlands of Hickman and Fulton Counties. Most striking on this date to a visitor from northern areas of Kentucky was the number of summer birds that had allready arrived by that date. A Ruby-throated Hummingbird *(Archilocus colubris)*, a Common Yellowthroat, and two Little Blue Herons seemed very early, and Parula Warblers *(Parula americana)*, Prothonotary Warblers, Yellow-throated Warblers *(Dendroica dominica)*, White-eyed Vireos, and Yellow-throated Vireos *(Vireo flavifrons)* were already present in full force in the bottomland woods. Several species of shorebirds were also seen in wet fields.

On May 5 and 6, 1981, Palmer-Ball and Barron visited the Jackson Purchase purely for birding pleasure. Efforts were concentrated in areas adjacent to the Mississippi River. the BCWMA, and the Land Between the Lakes. A surprising array of birds was observed with 147 species recorded for the two days. Migrant flocks were very diverse and quite similar to ones that both of us were familiar with seeing in the Louisville area.

Waterbirds seen in Ballard, Carlisle, and Hickman Counties on May

5th, and in Fulton County and the Kentucky Lake area on May 6th are included in Table 1.

Neither Bell's Vireos nor Mississippi Kites had arrived as of May 6th.

The most surprising array of birds was found in the vicinity of Kentucky Dam where many gulls and terns were present. We observed an adult Franklin's Gull *(Laurus pipixcan)* feeding below the dam spillway with approximately fifty Ring-billed Gulls *(Larus delawarensis)*, one Herring Gull *(L. argentatus)*, six Forster's Terns *(Sterna forsteri)*, two Caspian Terns *(S. caspia)*, and two Common Terns *(S. hirundo)* were all feeding in waters around the dam with most concentrated below the dam spillway. In addition, a flock of 38 breeding-plumaged Dunlin *(Calidris alpina)* was observed just south of Interstate-24 at the Kentucky Dam exit.

From June 19-22, 1981, Palmer-Ball and Barron visited western Kentucky for the purpose of completing several Breeding Bird Surveys for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service. These surveys were conducted in Henderson, Union, Webster, and Livingston Counties. In addition, we took a side trip to the purchase region on June 21.

Three Least Bitterns *(Ixobrychus exilis)* were observed in flight over sloughs on the BCWMA, a pair together on Beaverdam slough, and a single bird over Mitchell Lake. Mengel listed a July record for Ballard County, and it is not unlikely that this species is nesting on the many bodies of water to be found in this area. To our knowledge, this is the first summer record for the state since the early fifties.

Seven Great Egrets *(Casmerodius albus)* were observed feeding at the north end of Mitchell Lake and at least six Yellow-crowned Night Herons *(Nyctanassa violacea)*, 15 Little Blue Herons, and 20 Great Blue Herons were also seen in the vicinity of the sloughs in Ballard County. It seemed probable that all of these species were nesting in the vicinity of the BCWMA.

Bell's Vireos were once again observed at the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area, but as last year, only males were seen. This year there were at least three territorial males on the management area.

At Turner's Landing on the BCWMA an adult Laughing Gull *(Larus atricilla)* was observed as it flew down the Ohio River at midstream. This bird had a complete black hood and all dark primaries as well as the dusky underwing pattern (with all dark primaries) characteristic of this species. Interestingly, this bird kept up a steady pace downstream the entire time we watched, disappearing out of view within five minutes.

On August 30, 1981, Palmer-Ball and Diane Ebel visited the Mississippi floodplain portion of Hickman and Fulton Counties and the BCWMA.

At least twelve Mississippi Kites were observed in a loose flock along the levee just north of the Tennessee line as they hawked for insects. Large dragonflies and cicadas appeared to be the major prey items. These birds would course back and forth over the cottonwood trees at an altitude of about 150 feet, suddenly veer and drop below the treeline in an instant, catch the insects in their talons, and rise back up to treetop level where they proceeded to devour the meal on the wing. Holding the prey in one talon, the birds would reach back with their bills and dissect the insect, picking out the best portions, circling the entire time. An afternoon of watching these magnificent birds makes any trip to this area well worth the effort.

A list of waterbirds observed on the BCWMA, almost all of which were seen at the pooled area below Dam #53 on the Ohio River described by Gray, is included in Table 1.

Of the 150 Little Blue Herons listed, 137 were tallied by actual count as they passed over Mitchell Lake at sunset. All of the birds were moving south in small groups. It was interesting that about three-quarters of the birds were immatures in contrast to the entirely adult (with a few calicos) population noted by Jackie Elmore in May (1981, *Ky. Warbler* 57: 55). This change in ratio would seem to indicate breeding in the vicinity of the birds' feeding grounds on the management area. It was extremely difficult to census the herons of the management area in summer because so many of the birds were probably missed as they fed on inaccessible sloughs out of sight. It was also hard to decide how many birds were missed at sunset since upon our arrival birds were already going over and still others may have been feeding south of the observation point. Nevertheless, this population is easily the largest in our state and should be watched closely.

On October 3 and 4, 1981, Palmer-Ball and Barron visited the Mississippi floodplain and the BCWMA after the K.O.S. fall meeting at Kentucky Lake. A surprising total of 119 species was recorded for the three-day weekend trip.

Approximately 15 Little Blue Herons were still present at the BCWMA on October 4th. A complete list of waterbirds is included in Table 1.

The highlight of this trip was the sighting of three Long-billed Dowitchers *(Limnodromus scolopaceus)*. The first observation was of a single bird feeding with a mixed group of shorebirds, mostly peeps, on mudflats of the Mississippi River in Carlisle County. This individual was flushed several times, giving its characteristic long "e" calls each time. Later in the day a pair of dowitchers was observed as they fed with a mixed shorebird flock on Mitchell Lake on the BCWMA. One of these birds gave a single long "e" note several times per minute as they probed in the mud, but both called loudly when they took wing with several Lesser Yellowlegs *(Tringa flavipes)* in the early evening.

In both instances we studied the field marks before the birds called and mutually agreed that all three birds could not have been identified to species for certainty. In fact, nothing made these birds noticeably "Long-billed" in any way except for their call notes and their presence so late in the shorebird season.

Some Long-billed Dowitchers are identifiable by the length of their bill, but all plumage colors and patterns should be regarded as supplementary field characters. These Long-billed Dowitchers were as gray and unbarred as many Short-billed Dowitchers *(L. griseus)* we have seen in other years.

It is entirely possible that *most* (if not all) dowitchers that are still in Kentucky in October or later are Long-billed. We suggest that all birds not identified by call notes be regarded as dowitcher sp. Once observers become familiar with the call notes, virtually all dowitchers encountered can be positively identified to species.

We suggest the following guidelines as useful aids to identification of dowitchers in the field. The call of the Long-billed Dowitcher may be a single note or a short series of notes when alarmed, but always contains the long "e" sound as the predominant portion that can be heard. The Short-billed Dowitcher's call notes are always more stacatto, sometimes a single note, but many times are doubled or tripled into a short series of

gutteral notes described as "tu-tu-tu", the predominant sound that is heard being the short "u" sound (as in tug). When excited (perhaps by a persistent or over-zealous birder) the Short-billed Dowitcher's call notes can become somewhat of a shriek and thus sound higher pitched and more like that of the Long-billed Dowitcher's. The best way to identify the species is to wait for one to call on its own, or flush the birds "gently".

TABLE 1

Summary of waterbirds seen on trips to western Kentucky

	Hickman Co. Lake #9 8-23-80	BCWMA 8-23-80	Hickman Car., Bal. 5-5-81	Ky. Lake Ful. Co. 5-6-81	BCWMA 8-30-81	Jackson Purchase 10-3-81 & 10-4-81
Great Blue Heron	2	30+	6	12	20	50
Green Heron	0	10	6	6	6	2
Little Blue Heron	0	30	4	0	150	15
Great Egret	0	1	0	0	4	1
B-cr. Night Heron	1	0	0	0	0	0
Yel-cr. N. Heron	0	0	1	1	0	0
American Bittern	0	0	2	0	0	0
Semipal. Plover	10	8	20	8	10	1
Killdeer	50+	150	75+	50+	30+	75+
Am. Golden Plover	0	0	0	1	0	0
Black-bel. Plover	0	0	0	0	1	0
Common Snipe	0	0	1	0	0	15
Spotted Sandpiper	5	4	3	4	6	2
Solitary Sandpiper	1	1	12	10	0	0
Greater Yellowlegs	2	2	0	0	0	1
Lesser Yellowlegs	3	20	6	4	5	5
Pectoral Sandpiper	50	125	10	4	40	8
White-rumped S'piper	0	0	1	0	0	0
Baird's Sandpiper	0	0	0	0	1	4
Least Sandpiper	75*	0	50	6	10	75
Dunlin	0	0	0	38	0	1
Short-b. Dowitcher	1	6	0	0	1	0
Long-b. Dowitcher	0	0	0	0	0	3
Stilt Sandpiper	5	18	0	0	5	0
Semipal. Sandpiper	25*	0	10	1	10	2
Western Sandpiper	150*	0	0	0	20	0
Sanderling	0	0	0	0	0	2
Peep sp.	0	50	0	0	0	10
Herring Gull	0	0	0	1	0	2
Ring-billed Gull	0	0	0	50	5	25
Franklin's Gull	0	0	0	1	0	0
Forster's Tern	0	0	0	6	0	0
Common Tern	0	0	0	2	0	0
Caspian Tern	0	0	0	2	0	0
Black Tern	0	1	0	0	1	0
Least Tern	6	0	0	0	3	0

* Sandpiper flock of approximately 250 birds was estimated as to numbers.

We have been unsuccessful in locating nesting colonies of Great Egrets, Double-crested Cormorants *(Phalacrocorax auritus)*, Anhingas *(Anhinga anhinga)*, and Cattle Egrets *(Bubulcus ibis)*. The first three were last reported nesting in the state about 1950 and the latter has recently been found nesting on Lake Barkley, Trigg County (Thomas, 1982).

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ED. NOTE: At the Fall K.O.S. meeting in 1968 George Ray described the nesting of the Least Bittern at Carpenter's Lake, and Frank Abrams showed photographs of the nest.

THE NESTING SEASON, SUMMER 1982

Anne L. Stamm

June was cold; the temperature dipped to the fifties on 13 days. Precipitation in the Louisville area was slightly below normal. July averaged about normal for both rainfall and temperature. Violent storms lashed across Kentucky on June 8, with Henderson County being hardest hit. Trees and power lines were downed, causing much damage. A similar storm hit the Highland Section of Louisville on July 17 and uprooted trees. Walnuts were literally stripped from the trees and covered the ground in some locations. Tree-nesting species were probably affected by these storms.

This season the summer reports contained an encouraging amount of data on the actual breeding activities of the birds of the state. A survey of colonial wading birds received from Burline Pullin, T.V.A., added significant data. The Little Blue Heron again nested in Trigg County. Philip Mastrangelo reported a nest of the Barn Owl with five young. W. C. Alcock continued his on-going project on the Eastern Bluebird in Central Kentucky Wildlife Refuge.

Other interesting records included a Brown-headed Cowbird fledged from the nest of a Carolina Wren — an uncommon victim. House Finches remained throughout the season at four locations in the Louisville area.

It was evident that some species were extending their range south-

westward. House Wrens were on the increase at Murray. The Henslow's Sparrow was found in Muhlenberg County in June, while the Song Sparrow, formerly a rare summer resident in Hopkins County, has become more visible in recent years. Interestingly enough, the Blue Grosbeak continued to extend its breeding range eastward to Barren, Warren, Larue and Pulaski counties and northward to Jefferson and Oldham counties.

Herons — Three Great Blue Heron colonies were again found in western Kentucky (BP); five birds were seen at Goose Pond, Hopkins County, June 14 (JH); and both adult and immatures were seen along a creek at Springfield (JB) and one at the Falls of the Ohio, July 17 (FS, S). Green Heron were again nesting in Trigg County (BP); also present in northern Kentucky, but not as common as past years (LMc); and only small numbers observed in the Louisville area. A single Great Egret remained in the Falls of the Ohio area from May 28 through July 31 (LR, and others); one at Lentz's Pond, Louisville, June 27-July 4 (CG) and on July 27 (S, FS). A large colony of Black-crowned Night Herons was again nesting in Trigg County on June 9 (BP); also a fair number — at least 100 plus — at Falls of the Ohio (JEl, LR) and 71 immatures there on July 14 (LR) and an adult at Lentz's Pond, July 27 (S). Two Yellow-crowned Night Heron were seen at Falls of the Ohio, June 22 (JEl) and at least two nests were seen at Falls of the Ohio, June 22 (JEl) and at least two nests were found in Lexington (DC), where it has nestled in recent years.

Waterfowl — At least five pair of Canada Geese nested at Cave Hill Cemetery, Louisville — these were feral birds (MS). Four Black Ducks were seen at the Falls of the Ohio on July 27 (FS, S). A male Ring-necked Duck, above McAlpine Dam on July 5, was unusual, also observed there July 27 (S, FS). A female Wood Duck with nine young was seen on May 8 in Boone County (LMc).

Raptors — A flock of ten Turkey Vultures on June 6 in Henry County was of interest (S, FS) as were the seven near Somerset, July 14 (JEl). Few hawks were reported: a Sharp-shinned Hawk at Eubank, July 8, was noteworthy (JEl). A Cooper's Hawk nest, with three young, was found at Big Pond Sanctuary, Falls of the Rough area (KC). A few Red-shouldered Hawks were reported, but no actual nest records were received. A single Broad-winged Hawk was seen at Fort Wright, June 27 (EG) and may have nested there; small numbers were recorded on their "nesting grounds" in the spring at Danville (FL). An interesting incident occurred in Muhlenberg County on June 12 when a female Marsh Hawk was noted "mobbing" two Turkey Vultures (AB, BPB). The American Kestrel seemed to be doing well; nesting reported at Fort Wright (EG) and at Springfield (JB) and were "more evident" than in recent years at Hamlin (J. Erwin *fide* CP).

Bobwhite through Coots — Bobwhite were recorded in good numbers on the Breckenridge and Hardin counties Breeding Bird Surveys (hereafter BBS — BM) and "up" on the Greenup and Carter surveys (FB), but were down, from last year, on the Henry County survey (S), and found in low numbers at Springfield, where they have not recovered from the severe winters of several years ago (JB). A King Rail in the vegetation near the dike at the Falls of the Ohio, July 18, was remarkable (JB).

A few American Coots were late stragglers: three at Goose Pond, Hopkins County, June 14 (JH); one at Danville on July 1 (FL).

Shorebirds — In northern Kentucky the habitat for shorebirds seemed to be "lacking" and therefore no unusual species were sighted. (LMc); and although a part of the rock ledge at the Falls of the Ohio was dry, the majority of the birds arrived on schedule but in small numbers. Five American Golden Plover arrived early at the Falls on July 28 (LR) and two Black-bellied Plovers were seen there the same day (LR). A few Spotted Sandpipers were noted at The Falls of the Ohio on July 17 and 29 (S, FS); and two together at Danville, July 3, perhaps a breeding pair (FL). Earliest returns of the Lesser Yellowlegs occurred on July 18 when two were seen at the Falls of the Ohio (JG, JP), numbers increased to eight on July 29 (S); two Greater Yellowlegs were there on July 21 (LR) and 29 (S). A single Pectoral Sandpiper was observed at the Falls of the Ohio, July 27 (FS, S), but eight were there on July 29 (LR, S, FS) — later than normal for arrival dates. A single Baird's Sandpiper was noted at the Falls, July 27 and two there July 29 (S, FS) and one at the latter date at Wave Rock (LR). Three "peeps" were reported at the Falls on June 28, but were too far away to identify (AB), but three Least Sandpipers were observed at the Crescent Hill Reservoir, July 9 (S) and six at the Falls, July 29 (S, FS). A Stilt Sandpiper at Wave Rock, July 29, was the only one reported; two Semipalmated Sandpipers were also there on the same date (LR). There was virtually no shorebird habitat during the period at Kentucky and Barkley Lakes (MM).

Gulls and Terns — A single Ring-billed Gull frequented the Falls of the Ohio from July 7-31 (LR), and was also observed on July 17 (S, FS) and on July 18 (JG). The only Forester's Tern reported came from McAlpine Dam, July 24 (LR). A Least Tern below McAlpine Dam, July 14, was an interesting record (LR). Two Caspian Terns at the Falls of the Ohio, July 5, were unusually early (S, FS). The only Black Terns reported were two on Kentucky Lake, June 12 (CM).

Doves through Woodpeckers — It was a good year for Mourning Doves—species nested both on the ground and in trees. The Yellow-billed Cuckoo was not as numerous at Springfield (JB) and Louisville (S) as in past years, but more common than ever at Fort Wright (EG). A Barn Owl nest with five young, May 19, at Richmond, was a significant find. The birds were in the attic of a house and were banded (PM). The Chuck-will's-widow was thought to be decreasing in Trigg County (Ed Ray *fide* CP), but doing well in Calloway County (CP); and at least six were present in the Radcliff-Fort Knox area from June 1 through June 30 (JG). Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were scarce in some areas, but were observed in "greater numbers" than in recent summers in the Burlington area (LMc); several in the Madisonville area June 17-July 1 (JH); also several pair at Falls of Rough (KC). The nest of a Belted Kingfisher, with young, at Prospect, Jefferson County, June 12, was of special interest since dated observations for this area are few (JK). Red-headed Woodpeckers were found in "excellent" numbers in various places in Boone County (LMc); two pair nested on a farm in Centerfield (CG); and were breeding at a few locations in the Louisville area (S, m. ob.).

Flycatchers through Swallows — Eastern Kingbirds seemed to be doing well. The Great Crested Flycatcher was found in good numbers in the Fort Knox area (JG), but numbers were low in the Louisville area (S). The Eastern Phoebe was stable at Burlington (LMc), up over 100% on the Greenup County BBS (FB); good numbers at Fort Knox (JG), but fewer were found nesting under bridges in the Louisville area (S). A Willow Flycatcher was identified by its song at Elk Creek, Hopkins County, on June 17 (JH). A pair of Tree Swallows nested again at Long Run State Park (S, FS). A small colony (10-15 active nests) of Bank Swallows was again present in a gravel pit in western Boone County (LMc). About 12 pair of Rough-winged Swallows were found nesting in crevices of a road-cut in Henry County, June 5-6 (S, FS); also in a creek bank at Springfield (JB). The Cliff Swallows continued to make news by spreading over the state: a new colony at Almo, over Clark River (CP); a flock of 24 nested again at Skeggs Creek Bridge, near Glasgow (RS); a small colony, probably 25+ near Knifley, Adair County, June 6 (JEl); and a few were reported in Wolfe County on the BBS (Robert Morris *fide* DC). Purple Martins appeared to be doing well in Louisville, Springfield and in northern Kentucky.

Wrens through Thrushes — The House Wren continued to spread its breeding range southwestward to Murray (CP); the population was "larger" at Fort Wright (EG); "up" at Danville (FL) and "abundant" at Fort Knox (JG). Only single Bewick's Wrens were reported from Calloway (CP) and Hopkins County (JH). An interesting observation was that of a Carolina Wren feeding three of her own nestlings and one of the Brown-headed Cowbird on June 25, Louisville (AM). All reports indicated the Carolina Wren making an upward climb (m. ob.). Also, Eastern Bluebirds were making a good comeback, even more so than the Carolina Wren (m. ob.); about 45 pair on the Fort Knox Reservation (JG); and 43 young raised in 11 of the 16 erected nest boxes at Central Kentucky Wildlife Refuge (WA). A double nest of the American Robin was discovered in the Valley Station area and worthy of record (*fide* DS).

Waxwing through Shrikes — Although the Cedar Waxwing was "virtually absent" in Boone County compared to 1981 (LMc), they were recorded on several BBS in central Kentucky (BM, LS); and also one at Danville, June 12, where it may have nested (FL). The Loggerhead Shrike was seen feeding young at Murray during late July and was thought to be increasing in Calloway and Trigg counties (CP).

Vireos through Warblers — Warbling Vireo nests were reported at Springfield and at Louisville (JB, S, respectively), but numbers seemed to be lower than in previous years in central Kentucky. Red-eyed Vireos were down slightly from 1981 on the BBS in Carter County (FB). Blue-winged Warblers were common breeding birds in western Boone County, as were Parula Warblers, along Middle Creek Road (LMc); also recorded at Lock Mary, Hopkins County, where it is rare in summer (JH). The Cerulean Warbler seemed to be declining in Hopkins County (JH) and continued its recent trend of low numbers in northern Kentucky (LMc). The Yellow-throated Warbler was seen regularly in the Fort Knox Reservation (JG) and also in June in Hopkins County, where it is an uncommon summer resident (JH). The Pine Warbler was heard throughout

June near Mammoth Cave National Park and possibly nested there (WM). The Ovenbird was heard at Elk Creek Bottoms in Hopkins County, June 17, where it normally is very rare in summer (JH). The Yellow-breasted Chat showed decreases in numbers in Trigg, Calloway and Barren counties (CP, RS), and was not found in a few locations in Jefferson County where it previously nested (S).

Bobolinks — Only one or two pair of Bobolinks were found on their usual breeding ground (Goshen Farm) in Oldham County, where some agricultural changes were made; and three on Henry County BBS, June 6 (S). Orchard Orioles were considered "abundant" at Fort Knox Reservation (JG). Good numbers of Northern (Baltimore) Orioles were seen: nests were found at Fort Wright (EG), Long Run State Park (S), and building was observed in western Kentucky (S); also June records in Henry and Washington counties (S, JB, respectively). Six Scarlet Tanagers were found on June 24 at various locations in the Madisonville area (JH); and a male was observed feeding a young Brown-headed Cowbird in Boone County (LMc).

Fringillidae — A female Rose-breasted Grosbeak on June 6 on the Demunbrun BBS was unusual (WM). Blue Grosbeaks continued to spread eastward in the state: reports came from at least nine counties from Calloway to Pulaski county and increases were noted particularly in central and southeast Kentucky (m. ob.). Indigo Buntings were thought to be "abundant" at Fort Wright (EG) and in McLean County (RI). No Dickcissels were found in the Danville area (FL); only one or two in the Louisville area in mid-June (S); a few in Oldham County, June 28 (AB); one in Henry County, June 6 (S); and numbers were on location in late May in Ballard, Fulton, and Hickman counties (m. ob.). A few House Finches were heard singing during June and early July in Creason Park (AB), and young were observed at a feeder, where the adults had been all spring at the edge of Cherokee Park (fide S); also at two other Louisville locations during the period (MS). A few Grasshopper Sparrows were found on the BBS in Shelby, Henry (S), Montgomery (*fide* DC), and Larue (LS) counties; with a slight decrease noted on the Breckinridge and Hardin counties BBS (BM); and a few observed in Muhlenberg County, June 13 (AB, BPB). Few observers mentioned the Henslow's Sparrow; however, a few were recorded on the Pleasureville BBS, June 7 (S); three birds in Oldham County, June 28 (AB); and two singing in a strip mine area in Muhlenberg County, June 13 (AB, BPB). The latter two birds extended the summer range southwestward. The Chipping Sparrow continued to be found in low numbers in the Louisville area (S), but was considered "abundant" at Fort Wright (EG). The Field Sparrow indicated downward trends in Calloway and Trigg Counties (CP). A Bachman's Sparrow on the BBS in Trigg County was reported (CP).

Fall migration reports (August, September, October and November) are due by December 7, 1982.

Contributors — W. C. Alcock (WA), Alan Barron (AB), John Barber (JB), Fred Busroe (FB), Kathryn Clay (KC), Dennis Coskren (DC), Jackie Elmore (JEl), John Getgood (JG), Ed Groneman (EG), Caroline Gresham (CG), James W. Hancock (JH), Ramon Iles (RI), John Krull (JK), Frederick Loetscher (FL), Lee McNeely (LMc), Alice Marion

(AM), Wayne Mason (WM), Charlotte Mathena (CM), Michael Miller (MM), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (BM), Doxie Noonan (DN), James Pasikowski (JP), Burline Pullin et al (BP), Lene Rauth (LR), Mabel Slack (MS), Lawrence D. Smith (LS), Anne L. Stamm (S), F. W. Stamm (FS), Russell Starr (RS), Margaret Sullivan (MSu), Donald Summerfield (DS). —9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FALL MEETING

October 1-3, 1982

The fifty-ninth Annual Fall Meeting of the Kentucky Orinthological Society was held at Cumberland Falls State Park on October 1, 2, and 3. A total of 48 persons registered for the meeting.

President P. Allaire presided at the Friday evening meeting. Ginger Murphy presented an interesting discussion of her research of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker in the Daniel Boone National Forest. Don Summerfield described a double nest of the American Robin. Vice-president Ferrell urged those present to consider participation in the Friday evening programs in future meetings. It was announced that Saturday field trips would include two trips to the possible roosting site of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker, to be led by Ginger Murphy and Fred Busroe. The Friday evening meeting was followed by a social hour enjoyed by all.

On Saturday morning 30 members traveled to a nearby roosting site of the Red-cockaded Woodpecker at 6:45 a.m. A bird was observed exiting from the cavity, but the light was so poor that the identity of the bird could not be made with certainty. The dense fog lifted later in the morning, and additional field trips were taken. The weather was excellent for the entire weekend, and the scenery was spectacular.

On Saturday afternoon 26 members gathered and viewed the Audubon film, It Began With Birds, shown by Dr. Ferrell. The Saturday evening program was presented by Dr. Fred Alsop, Biology professor at East Tennessee State University and consisted of excellent examples of Dr. Alsop's photography of birds in various parts of the world.

A brief business meeting followed the program and included the Treasurer's report, Editor's report, Nominating Committee report, and announcements concerning the Spring Meeting and Sunday morning field trips. The Nominating Committee reports was presented as follows:

President: Pierre Allaire
Vice-president: Blaine Ferrell
Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer: John Krull
Recording Secretary: Mrs. Wendell Kingsolver
New Councillors: Paul Sturm and James Williams

The candidates were duly elected. It was announced that the 1983 Spring Meeting would be held at Barren River State Park April 22 through 24. On Sunday individual and small-group field trips were made in the surrounding area. The total number of species recorded during the weekend was 71, an unusually low number. The weather was pleasant but very warm, perhaps slowing the movement of migrant species.

Respectfully submitted,
H. E. Shadowen
Acting Recording Secretary

BIRDS REPORTED ON FIELD TRIPS AT THE FALL MEETING AT CUMBERLAND FALLS STATE PARK

October 1-3, 1982

Canada Goose, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Osprey, Ruffed Grouse, Spotted Sandpiper, Mourning Dove, Yellow-bil. Cuckoo, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Belted Kingfisher, Common Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Great Crested Flycatcher, Eastern Phoebe, Eastern Wood Pewee, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Red-breasted Nuthatch, House Wren, Carolina Wren, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, American Robin, Wood Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Ruby-Crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Starling, Yellow-throated Vireo, Solitary Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Black-and-White Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Pine Warbler, Palm Warbler, Ovenbird, Hooded Warbler, American Redstart, House Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Scarlet Tanager, Summer Tanager, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow. — Total species: 71.

ATTENDANCE AT THE K.D.S. 1982 FALL MEETING AT CUMBERLAND FALLS STATE PARK

Members and guests who registered were:

ARY: Dr. and Mrs. Robert Sawyer
BOWLING GREEN: Dr. Blaine Ferrell, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Jones, Wayne Mason, Mr. and Mrs. William Mathes, Dr. Herbert E. Shadowen, Robert Wurster
BROWNSTON: Ginger Murphy
BURLINGTON: Mr. and Mrs. Lee McNeely
FRANKFORT: Mr. and Mrs. Howard P. Jones
HAZARD: Dr. and Mrs. Donnie Spencer

JACKSON: Dr. and Mrs. Pierre Allaire
LEITCHFIELD: Mr. and Mrs. Montelle Wilson
LEXINGTON: Robert Morris, Glenn Raleigh, Marie Sutton, Mr. and Mrs. James Williams
LOUISVILLE: Richard Cassell, Mrs. Sue Henderson, Doxie Noonan, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Martha Pike, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm
MOREHEAD: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Busroe
MURRAY: Paul Sturm
OWENSBORO: Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Iles, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wilson
RICHMOND: Dr. Pete Thompson
Valley Station: Mr. and Mrs. Donald Summerfield
Williamsburg: Imogene Faulkner, Mrs. J. B. Mountjoy
Dyersburg, Tennessee: Joel Bonnell, Kenneth Leggett
Knoxville, Tennessee: Sylvia Britt

REPORT OF THE TREASURER
KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
FALL 1982

GENERAL FUND

Cash Balance 1st National Bank of Louisville 10/1/81		$ 130.45
Receipts:		
Dues	$2,096.00	
Fall Meeting 1982	522.00	
Spring Meeting 1982	112.00	
Interest Transfer on Endowment C.D.	326.31	
Sale of checklists, patches etc.	103.49	
Interest Income	355.44	
Donations	115.00	3,630.24
		$3,760.69
Disbursements:		
Printing of *Kentucky Warbler*	2,313.22	
Fall Meeting 1981 (Banquet & Speaker)	459.02	
Spring Meeting 1982	36.01	
Postage & Bulk Mailing Permit	176.50	
Nature Conservancy Dues	10.00	
KY State Filing Fee	4.00	
Safe Deposit Box Rental	13.00	
Life Membership Transfer to Endowment (1)	75.00	
Transfer of Interest to Gordon Wilson	123.52	
Bank Service Charges	3.50	3,213.77
Cash Balance 1st National Bank as of September 30, 1982		$ 546.92

ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance in saving Future Federal 9/30/81		$ 980.91
Accumulated Interested on C.D. #13-14-660944		326.31
Certificates of Deposit:		3,500.00
2 @ 1,000.00 ea. Colonial Federal		
1 @ 1,500.00 Future Federal		
		$4,807.22
Receipts:		
Interest on Savings	$ 58.21	
Life Membership (1)	75.00	
Interest on Certificates	356.84	490.05
		$5,297.27
Disbursements:		
Transfers of Interest to General Fund	558.23	558.23
		$4,739.04
Certificates of Deposit		$3,500.00
Accumulation of Interest		124.92
on C.D. 13-14-660944 9/30/81 to 9/30/82		
Balance in Savings Account Future Federal 9/30/82		1,114.12
		$4,739.04

GORDON WILSON FUND

Balance in Saving Account, Greater Louisville 9/30/81		$ 238.40
Certificates of Deposit (2 @ 1,000.00)		2,000.00
Accumulated Interest on C.D. #11-11-20014 os of 9/30/81		56.06
Receipts:		
Interest on Savings Account (3 quarters)	10.88	
Interest on Certificates	211.72	222.60
		$2,517.06
Certificates of Deposit (2 @ $1,000.00)		$2,000.00
Balance in Savings Account as of 9/30/82		372.80
Accumulated Interest on Certificate #11-11-20014 as or 9/30/82		144.26
BALANCE IN FUND		$2,517.06

BALANCE SHEET
as of September 30, 1982

Cash 1st National Bank, Louisville, KY.	$ 546.92
Savings account Future Federal (Endowment Fund)	1,114.12
Savings account Greater Louisville (Gordon Wilson)	372.80
Certificates (2) @ $1,000.00 ea. Colonial Federal (Endowment)	2,000.00
Certificate (1) @ $1,000.00 ea. Colonial Federal (Gordon Wilson)	1,000.00
Certificate (1) @ $1,500.00 ea. Future Federal (Endowment)	1,624.92
Certificate (1) & $1,000.00 ea. Greater Louisville (Gordon Wilson)	1,144.26
Total Assets	$7,803.02
Net Worth	$7,803.02

John Krull
Treasurer

THE REPORT OF THE AUDITOR

The treasurer's records, bank statements, certificates of deposit and other financial records of the Society were examined for the period October 1, 1981 through September 30, 1982. The examination confirms that receipts and disbursements have been correctly accounted for and bank balances are in agreement with the treasurer's statements.

Frederick W. Stamm

The editor expresses the thanks of the Kentucky Ornithological Society to Frederick W. Stamm who for many years has skillfully performed the thankless but essential task of Auditor.

FIELD NOTES

A DOUBLE NEST OF THE AMERICAN ROBIN

A double nest of the American Robin *(Turdus migratorius)* was observed on April 22, 1982, by C. S. Quinton, Louisville, Kentucky, 40272. Mr. Quinton, a railroader with an interest in birds, discovered the nest on the bracket behind the identification placard of a railroad tank car. The location of the tank car was a marshy, industrial area off Camp Ground Road in southwest Jefferson County.

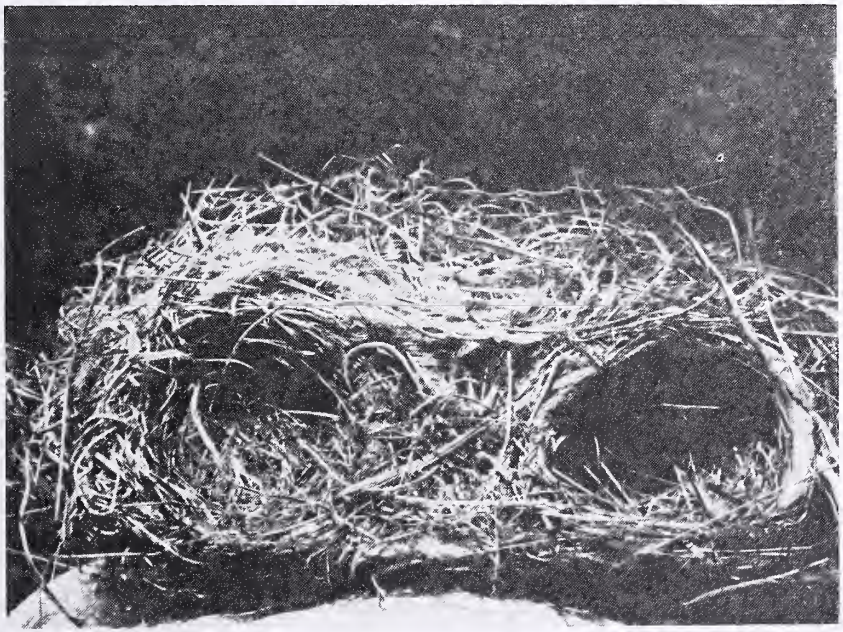
At the time of the observation, the tank car was in the process of being switched out of the area for routing to Texas. Mr. Quinton secured the nest and contacted Mrs. Frederick W. (Anne) Stamm, to advise her of the unusual find. At Mrs. Stamm's request, Mr. Quinton delivered the nest to me because I was the nearest Beckham Bird Club member to his home.

An inspection of the nest confirmed that it was truly double, consisting of two mud cups, lined with fine grass but of separate identity. The nests were intricately woven together of coarse grass and other closely related marsh vegetation. Many of the fibers ran from one cup to the other through the woven median area. The construction and materials appeared conventional. The unusual aspect was in the fabrication of materials that enclosed the two grass-lined, mud cups into a single double nest.

This double nest has been measured, photographed and turned over to the Biology Department of the University of Louisville.

A photograph of an apparently similar double nest to the one described is to be found in Richard Headstrom's *Birds' Nests: A Field Guide*, Ives Washburn, Inc., N.Y., N.Y., 1949, Plate No. 43. A comment accompanying the photograph indicates that through a lack of orientation, the robin became confused and constructed two nests.

— DONALD SUMMERFIELD, 9910 Prairie Drive, Louisville, Ky. 40272.



Photograph of the double Robin nest taken by Donald Summerfield.

COMMON GRACKLE KILLS CEDAR WAXWING

In 19 September 1982 an immature Cedar Waxwing *(Bombycilla cedrorum)* was brought to me by two individuals who indicated that the young bird had failed to fly when they came upon it along a road in Richmond, Ky. Examination of the waxwing revealed no injuries so I banded the bird and took it to a semi-wooded area on the Eastern Ken-

tucky University campus. I threw the young waxwing into the air and it flew rather slowly in the direction of a small tree located about 15 meters away. After the waxwing had flown about half way to the tree, a Common Grackle *(Quiscalus quiscula)* flew down from a large Sugar Maple *(Acer saccharum)* and hit the waxwing with its feet, knocking the waxwing to the ground. The grackle immediately flew down to the waxwing and struck it several times with its bill. When I ran toward the grackle it flew off. However, the young waxwing was dead by the time I reached it. Examination revealed that the waxwing had been struck several times in and above both eyes. I picked up the waxwing and as I walked away the grackle returned and appeared to search for its kill.

There have been several reports of Common Grackles attacking other birds. The most frequent victims appear to be House Sparrows *(Passer domesticus)*, both young (Davis, Auk 61:139-140, 1944; Mayfield, Wilson Bull. 66:271, 1954) and adults (Mayfield, Wilson Bull. 66:271, 1954; Taylor, Auk 75:222-223, 1958). Townsend (In Bent, U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 211:408, 1958) indicated that American Robins *(Turdus migratorius)* and the Gray-cheeked Thrush *(Catharus minimus)* have also been attacked by grackles. Other species that have been recorded as victims of Common Grackles include the Dickcissel, *Spiza americana* (Baird and Smith, Wilson Bull. 77:195, 1965) and the Barn Swallow, *Hirundo rustica* (Christofferson, Bird-Lore 29:119, 1927; Laporte, Wilson Bull. 86:477-478, 1974).

Baird and Smith (Wilson Bull. 77:195, 1965) indicated that it seemed improbable that a Common Grackle could successfully pursue and capture a healthy bird. My observation indicates that, on occasion, grackles are capable of capturing healthy birds. Such attacks, however, are probably limited to small birds.

— GARY RITCHISON, Department of Biological Sciences, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY 40475

NEWS AND VIEWS

FROM THE LIVING BIRD TO THE LIVING BIRD QUARTERLY

In the summer of 1982 Cornell University's Laboratory of Ornithology began publication of *The Living Bird Quarterly* to replace *The Living Bird*. The new quarterly publication will feature articles and photographs on bird behavior, habitat, conservation, art and research, and will be international in scope. In addition to articles written by professional writers and ornithologists, the laboratory will encourage amateur birders to contribute. The quarterly will be sent to laboratory members and will replace its annual publication. The laboratory was founded in 1957 and is the only recognized institution of its kind in the world. More information on the quarterly and other activities of the laboratory can be obtained by writing: Laboratory of Ornithology, Sapsucker Woods, Ithaca, NY 14850.

1982 MIDWINTER BIRD COUNT

Forms for the Midwinter Bird Count will be mailed out in November. If you desire to participate as a compiler and have not received the forms, please contact the Editor.

The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded in 1923 by B. C. Bacon, L. Otley Pindar, and Gordon Wilson

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Vice-President ..... Blaine Ferrell, Bowling Green

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Organ of the *Kentucky Ornithological Society*, Published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. The *KENTUCKY WARBLER* is sent to all members not in arrears for dues. Membership dues are: Active or Regular, $5.00; Contributing, $6.00; Student, $3.00; Life, $75.00; Family $1.00 in addition to Regular, Contributing, or Life Membership dues. All articles and communications should be addressed to the editor. Subscriptions, memberships, and requests for back issues should be sent to the treasurer.

Editor ..... H. E. Shadowen, Biology Department, Western Kentucky Univ., Bowling Green 42101

Assistant Editor ..... Blaine Ferrell, Bowling Green

Editorial Advisory Board

Anne L. (Mrs. F. W.) Stamm Burt L. Monroe, Jr.

OUR COVER

The artistic ability of our staff artist, Ray Harm, is once again displayed in his painting of the male Pintail.

MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT
1982-1983

Twenty-five counts are included in this report. A total of 113 species (four less than last year) was observed. Fourteen species were recorded on every count, and 14 were recorded on only one count. The warm temperature through January 5 obviously had an impact. There were no Evening Grosbeaks reported and fewer Brown Creepers, Winter Wrens, Pine Siskins, and waterfowl than in previous years. Unusual sightings included an Indigo Bunting and Harris' Sparrow.

Eastern Bluebirds and Carolina Wrens are on the increase. A total of 827 bluebirds were reported this year compared to 698 last year, and the number of Carolina Wrens increased from 342 to 436. Although mid-winter bird counts do not have the statistical validity of breeding bird counts, they do express trends. House Finches continue to increase in number and continue their expansion into western Kentucky. Unfortunately, House Sparrow numbers are also much higher this year, but winter roost species numbers are considerably lower.

The three counts with the lowest number of recorded species are not included in the table because of space limitation but are described along with all other counts. Thanks are expressed to all participants, particularly to those who included comments about their areas and observations and those who completed verification forms on unusual species.

LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle center the Trace and Mulberry Flat Road.) Habitat as described in 1980. Dec. 18; 6:40 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky overcast; temp. 33 to 43°; wind S, 5-10 m.p.h. with gusts up to 20 m.p.h. Gray overcast changed to light rain about 10:00 a.m. Fifteen observers in five parties. Total party-hours 35 (15.5 on foot, 19.5 by car). Total party miles 235 (23 on foot, 212 by car). Total species 73; total individuals 110,269.

Gray skies and rain, wide dispersal of waterfowl, and only fair natural food supply were factors in this count. The turkeys, common but seldom found on midwinter counts, were observed by Wellbaum, Eberhardt, and White. The almost total lack of meadowlarks was astonishing. — David Berry, Shirley Berry, Wally Brines, Roger Eberhardt, Joe Tom Erwin, Bob Head, Bob Kraft, Mike Miller, Clell Peterson (compiler), Ed Ray, Mark Shell, Bob Smith, Beth Wellbaum, Stephen White.

MARION (center Forest Grove.) Habitat 30% coniferous forest, 30% deciduous forest, 30% meadows and hedgerows, 10% reservoirs and creeks. Dec. 26; 6:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky mostly cloudy; temp. 45 to 50°; wind westerly 0-10 m.p.h. Three observers in one party .Total party-hours 10 (6 on foot, 4 by car). Total party miles 35 (5 on foot, 30 by car). Total species 47; total individuals 2,778. — C. L. Frazer (compiler), Jim Frazer, and Marie Frazer.

SORGHO (center L. E. Wilson farm). Habitat as descrobed in 1982. Dec. 30; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 30 to 45°; wind 0-5 m.p.h. Eleven observers in three parties. Total party-hours 88 (80 on foot, 8 by car). Total party miles 94 (10 on foot, 84 by car). Total species 46; total individuals 6,231.

Carolina Wrens have increased in number over last year. — Joey

Brown, Marty Brown, Tony Eaden, Joe Ford, Ray Iles, W. T. Perkins (compiler), Mildred Powell, A. L. Powell, Tommy Stevenson, Elenor Wilson, L. E. Wilson.

YELVINGTON (center junction of U.S. Hwy. 60 and Ky. Hwy. 405 at Maceo). Habitat as described in 1982. Dec. 18; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky overcast, rain in p.m.; temp. 36 to 38°; wind 5-10 m.p.h., gusty in morning. Seven observers in three parties. Total party-hours 15 (10 on foot, 5 by car). Total party miles 33 (7 on foot, 26 by car). Total species 43; total individuals 1,179.

Lakes and river had no waterfowl. The 22 bluebirds were worth noting, but the total species seen was disappointing. — Joey Brown, Mike Brown, Ray Iles, Bill Perkins, A. L. Powell (compiler), Mildred Powell, Maudie Ray.

MADISONVILLE (center Madisonville, including J. W. Hancock farm, Brown road, Elk Creek, Highway 892, and three lakes at Madisonville.) Habitat: deciduous woodlands and thickets 50%, lake shore 30%, and open fields 20%. Dec. 20; 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky cloudy in a.m. to mostly clear in p.m.; temp. 35 to 52°; wind s.w., 3-15 m.p.h. Four observers in two parties. Total party-hours 20 (17 on foot, 3 by car). Total party miles 82 (7 on foot, 75 by car). Total species 50; total individuals 2,147.

The open water at Lake Pewee contained several waterfowl. Meadowlarks appear to be scarce this winter. — James W. Hancock (compiler), Allen Morgan, Mary Travis, Nathanael Travis.

PENNYRILE FOREST STATE PARK (center Park Lodge area). Habitat as described in 1979. Dec. 30; 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky mostly clear in a.m. with increasing clouds in p.m.; temp 25 to 36°; wind NE, 5-9 m.p.h. One observer in one party. Total hours 10 (9 on foot, 1 by car). Total miles 31 (8 on foot, 23 by car). Total species 32; total individuals 299. No unexpected species were recorded. The total included 21 Ring-necked Ducks, 10 Common Goldeneye and 124 Dark-eyed Juncos. — James W. Hancock (compiler).

HOPKINSVILLE (center as described in 1982). Habitat: fence rows and roadside 20%, cropland 20%, pond and lake 15%, grasslands and pasture 15%, town and barnyard 15%, deciduous forest 15%. Jan. 1; 6:45 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Sky most clear; temp. 22 to 42°; wind W-NW, 0-5 m.p.h. Four observers in two parties. Total party-hours 17 (2 on foot, 15 by car). Total party miles 205 (2 on foot, 203 by car). Total species 42; total individuals 10,681. — Freddie Higgins (compiler), Kathy Higgins, Maggie Selvidge, Roger Selvidge.

BOWLING GREEN (center and habitat as described in 1980). Dec. 21; 7:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky clear to partly cloudy; temp. 28 to 42°; wind S, 0-5 m.p.h. Six observers in two parties. Total party-hours 17 (9 on foot, 5 by car, 3 by canoe). Total party miles 140 (6 on foot, 131 by car, 3 by boat). Total species 54; total individuals 2,597.

The unseasonal warm weather probably reduced the numbers of finches and waterfowl seen. The 17 Carolina Wrens were encouraging. The canoe trip resulted in the sighting of herons, owls, and kingfisher, but no waterfowl were observed along the stream. — Blaine Ferrell, Jeff Jenkins, Wayne Mason, Bill Mathes, H. E. Shadowen (compiler).

MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK (center and habitat as described in 1980). Dec. 19; 7:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky overcast; temp 36 to 43°; wind SW, 5 m.p.h. Fourteen observers in five parties. Total party-hours 36.5 (25 on foot, 11.5 by car). Total party miles 78.5 (15.5 on foot, 63 by car). Total species 43; total individuals 11,818. — Steve Barker, Paul Bayer, Mike Beiser, Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Marquita Gillenwater, Larry Holmes, Frances Jones, Howard M. Jones, Mike Jones, Irene Kokkala, Wayne Mason, Russell Starr, Al Stickley, Dan Twedt.

GLASGOW (center Barren County Courthouse.) Habitat as previously described. Jan. 1; 6:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky clear to partly cloudy; temp. 27 to 42°; wind W, 0-5 m.p.h. Eight observers in six parties. Total party-hours 38 (27 on foot, 11 by car). Total party miles 127 (12 on foot, 115 by car). Total species 60; total individuals 3,511.

Waterfowl numbers were down for the third straight year. Other disappointments were the low numbers of Shrikes and Swamp Sparrows and the absence of Red-headed Woodpeckers, Waxwings, and Red-winged Blackbirds. Carolina Wrens and Eastern Bluebirds continue to show dramatic increases. Also of interest was a large flock of Herring and Ring-billed Gulls at the dam. The five House Finches represent the first record of this species on Glasgow's Mid-winter bird count. — Mrs. James Gillenwater, Mr. and Mrs. Howard M. Jones, Martha B. Mason, Wayne M. Mason (compiler), Mrs. Billie Moore, Mrs. Emma Jean Pitcock, Dr. Russell Starr.

OTTER CREEK PARK (center and habitat as decribed in 1972). Dec. 27; 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky cloudy with intermittent showers in a.m. and clearing somewhat in afternoon; temp 47 to 68°; wind NW, 5 m.p.h. in a.m. and SSE, 10 m.p.h. in p.m. Eight observers in four parties. Total party-hours 34 (24 on foot, 10 by car). Total party miles 123 (16 on foot, 107 by car). Total species 57; total individuals 2,394.

The Ohio River, Doe Lake, and ponds were unusually high, and low-lying fields were flooded. Waterfowl were almost absent. Carolina Wrens and Bluebirds showed increase in numbers. There were low counts on Purple Finches, goldfinch, juncos, and some of the sparrows. — Garrett Adams, Mary B. Bauer, Richard Cassell, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Martha Pike, Anne L. Stamm (compiler), F. W. Stamm, Donald Summerfield.

BERNHEIM FOREST (center and habitat as described in 1974). Jan. 2; 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky mostly cloudy; temp. 24 to 40°; wind N-S, 0-20 m.p.h. Seventeen observers in eight parties. Total party-hours 57 (35.5 on foot, 21.5 by car). Total party miles 336 (22.5 on foot, 313.5 by car and ½ owling hour). Total species 64; total individuals 8,655.

This was the first year that two Phoebes were reported. The 28 Red-tailed Hawks was the highest total ever for that species. Carolina Wrens and Eastern Bluebirds have now recovered about halfway to their pre-1978 totals. Golden-crowned Kinglets and blackbird numbers were high, but Robins and Cedar Waxwings were low in number. — Garrett Adams, Mary B. Bauer, Jane and Pat Bell, Alice Ann Coomes, Susan Cruse, Diane Ebel, Katherine Fulkerson, Doxie Noonan, Joan Noel, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Jim Pasikowski, Martha Pike, Ann Robinson, Nancy Scheldorf, Helga Schutte, L. D. Smith.

LOUISVILLE (center jct. Hwys. 42 and 22, as described in 1972).

MID-WINTER

BIRD COUNT

1982-1983

	LAND BETWEEN LAKES	MARION	SORGHO	YELVINGTON	MADISONVILLE	HOPKINSVILLE	BOWLING GREEN	MAMMOTH CAVE N. PK.	GLASGOW	OTTER CREEK	BERNHEIM FOREST	LOUISVILLE	SHELBYVILLE	FRANKFORT	KLEBER	LEXINGTON	RICHMOND	DANVILLE	BURLINGTON	SOMERSET	ROWAN COUNTY	CARTER COUNTY
COMMON LOON																2	1	*			1	
PIED-BILLED GREBE	1			*	2						8	3	*	1		4	3			7	4	
DOUBLE-CR. CORM.	1																					
GREAT BLUE HERON	2			1			3		3			14		3	1	5	8	3	1		12	2
CANADA GOOSE	350	*				*	*			1	35	38	1	66		3	10	180			17	
SNOW GOOSE																					1	
MALLARD	315				60		43	57	2	20	17	747	24	103	2	152	45	80		25	12	45
BLACK DUCK	226						2	2		2		199	*	23		42	11	8			*	1
GADWALL	44							2				16		*		25		*		5		
PINTAIL														*		1						
GREEN-WINGED TEAL					6							2								2		
AMERICAN WIDGEON	4						*					6		*		48						
WOOD DUCK	10											1										2
REDHEAD					4							1									1	
RING-NECKED DUCK	6				575							6				1	20			1		
CANVASBACK					29												1	1				
GREATER SCAUP												3										
LESSER SCAUP					*		*					16					1			2		
COMMON GOLDENEYE	3				1							6				3						
BUFFLEHEAD	10				1							3									7	
OLDSQUAW																					1	
RUDDY DUCK					63							1	*									
HOODED MERGANSER	194											1	1			12	2				10	
COMMON MERGANSER	36											1										4
RED-BR. MERGANSER												1										

TURKEY VULTURE		2				3	2	1	13		4		*	53		93		*		1					
BLACK VULTURE								12				5	*	149	4	27									
SHARP-SH. HAWK		1							1	2	2		1					1		1					
COOPER'S HAWK	3						3		1	2	1	7	*	3		2	1		2		1				
RED-TAILED HAWK	4	4	4	4	3	22	10	2	5	5	28	26	8	34	14	48	17	60	9	4	3	1			
RED-SHOULDERED HAWK	4			*	*				2	1	8			2	1			2		1	1				
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK		1								2	5	6	*	5	2	3									
BALD EAGLE	19									1											2				
MARSH HAWK		*			1	3			2		2	1			1	2		4		1	*				
PEREGRINE FALCON												1		*											
AMERICAN KESTREL	5	7	25	9	11	29	17	1	18	9	68	65	20	52	20	78	33	92	34	19	8	2			
RUFFED GROUSE																	1				*	3			
BOBWHITE	3	31	13	1	5	8	9		14	9	7			18			5			8					
TURKEY	21																*								
AMERICAN COOT	3				590					27	1	7				32	16	16		19	6				
KILLDEER	4	7	17	24	29	13	10		10		11	36	*	16	2	90	4	19	*	35	6				
COMMON SNIPE	6		1				*		1		1	4	1	1		9		1							
HERRING GULL	34								100			4								*					
RING-BILLED GULL	945			4					153			45				4		1		1					
BONAPARTE'S GULL	54																								
ROCK DOVE	130	200	38	6	44	134	134		119	5	104	1039	74	256	21	238	81	347	34	134	40	5			
MOURNING DOVE	104	100	379	25	75	118	187	13	102	124	208	1010	57	290	157	208	92	771	21	79	15	1			
BARN OWL														1											
SCREECH OWL	1	1				*					5	2		8	2	8		1		3					
GREAT HORNED OWL	2	1	2			3	2		1		3	5	*	2	4	6	1	1	1	2					
BARRED OWL	*	1							2						1										
BELTED KINGFISHER	9	1	1	1	1	3	1		4	3	6	24	1	13	1	9	3	6	3	6	2	1			
COMMON FLICKER	20	5	11	9	14	13	28	9	14	16	56	35	10	66	12	27	10	1	5	9	2	2			
PILEATED WOODPECKER	9	1	2	2			6	16	8	5	16	10	*	8	9	10	3	3	2	1	2	10			
RED-BEL. WOODPECKER	28	17	44	14	8	19	10	16	29	23	37	40	9	62	21	50	5	25	10	3	2	2			
RED-HEAD. WOODPECKER	7		22	5	7		3	2		5	1	2		1	1	1					1				
YELLOW-B. SAPSUCKER	10	2		1	1		3	4	3	4	4	2	2	3	1	3		3	3		1				
HAIRY WOODPECKER	6	2	6	2	*	3	3	3	5	4	14	12	1	11	4	11	1	3	3		1				
DOWNY WOODPECKER	29	10	30	15	9	11	14	15	25	19	70	88	15	103	31	76	13	55	12	11	6	7			
EASTERN PHOEBE								3	3	2	2				1					1	2	1			
HORNED LARK		12	83	125	2		3		19	10	50	51	*	1				25							
BLUE JAY	116	50	89	24	74	53	91	47	57	137	198	176	20	101	51	68	9	88	24	23	20	5			
COMMON CROW	43	16	633	27	39	77	66	61	85	343	864	383	34	442	288	5000	189	160	60	116	11	58			

MID-WINTER

BIRD COUNT

1982-1983

	LAND BETWEEN LAKES	MARION	SORGHO	YELVINGTON	MADISONVILLE	HOPKINSVILLE	BOWLING GREEN	MAMMOTH CAVE N. PK.	GLASGOW	OTTER CREEK	BERNHEIM FOREST	LOUISVILLE	SHELBYVILLE	FRANKFORT	KLEBER	LEXINGTON	RICHMOND	DANVILLE	BURLINGTON	SOMERSET	ROWAN COUNTY	CARTER COUNTY
CAROLINA CHICKADEE	36	18	90	50	27	25	51	77	76	80	241	413	18	273	49	238	76	166	43	35	77	31
TUFTED TITMOUSE	42	2	80	20	10	17	37	67	59	59	154	269	8	113	62	130	19	77	21	20	37	20
WHITE-BR. NUTHATCH	22	2	10	5	3	8	5	24	20	12	70	22		9	3	11	10	9	21	8	8	6
RED-BR. NUTHATCH								13	2		47					1		3			2	
BROWN CREEPER			4	3	1		2	6	2	3	17	19		19	1	10		6	1	1	1	
HOUSE WREN							2															
WINTER WREN	2			1	*		*	2	4		2	13			2	2					1	
BEWICK'S WREN																2						
CAROLINA WREN	10	1	11	4	4	4	17	9	47	23	41	63	1	80	11	66	1	10	4	13	4	5
MOCKINGBIRD	3	21	24	16	11	50	38	2	32	19	55	140	12	34	4	62	11	63	3	16	1	1
GRAY CATBIRD							1															
BROWN THRASHER		2	2	11	4		4		1	2		2	5	3		3		2		1		
AMERICAN ROBIN	24	6	4	10	*	4	79	30	40	36	93	857	33	229	36	34	1	52	5	1	10	
HERMIT THRUSH					*			17		1	2			1						2		
EASTERN BLUEBIRD	50	*	*	22	*	14	5	3	32	42	100	30	24	153	49	117	33	109	20	12	11	1
GOLDEN-CR. KINGLET	3			*	1	1	2	121	6	24	106	67		25	22	21		5	5	15	*	7
RUBY-CR. KINGLET	6	4									1	2	2	6		3	1	2	2	4	*	
CEDAR WAXWING	5				*			30			56	15	3						4		8	
LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE	2	4	1			9	2		2	1	3	1	2	6		1		3				
STARLING	105100	500	570	81	123	1587	557	118	462	221	2156	8290	1432	871	379	5111	415	3277	201	707	91	18
YELLOW-R. WARBLER	3				1			46	6	27	127	6	2	29	10	49	11			1	2	
HOUSE SPARROW	59	1000	550	126	88	587	150		81	174	435	723	243	222	155	652	117	605	104	67	26	6
E. MEADOWLARK	1	8	76	26	9	96	45		28	11	101	26	8	27		138	17	156		72	10	
RED-W. BLACKBIRD	529		2	2	8	1610	41			9	637	10456	25	13				23		1		
RUSTY BLACKBIRD										10	1	891	50			1		10		20		

BREWER'S BLACKBIRD																40		3					
COMMON GRACKLE	400	35	15	10	2	2610	93	10503	1079	81	912	66285	25	3	2	2		21		1116			
BR.-HEADED COWBIRD	15	60	1				25		1		1	253	50	35		246		520		52			
CARDINAL	67	150	179	59	72	126	144	47	132	163	378	688	57	423	100	362	37	169	71	33	22	17	
INDIGO BUNTING												1											
PURPLE FINCH	12	3	20	5	1	2	48	44	60	29	90	114	50	206	49	90	103	33	25	7	25	4	
HOUSE FINCH					1		*		5			69		5		62		35		42		6	
PINE SISKIN	2											*				5		1					
AMER. GOLDFINCH	118	2	115	72	16	21	97	11	73	10	51	370	16	298	120	293	38	124	37	32	68	1	
RUFOUS-S. TOWHEE	18	2	23	9	13	18	57	2	17	41	24	45	16	32	27	19	2	6		6	1	2	
SAVANNAH SPARROW	1									6													
VESPER SPARROW	1																						
DARK-EYED JUNCO	772	100	87	82	50	225	154	220	89	245	531	183	28	577	306	450	134	90	47	10	131	91	
TREE SPARROW	8	6	25				2					16	1			3		4	1				
CHIPPING SPARROW												1				1							
FIELD SPARROW	16	2	3	107	*	19	28	16	93	23	29	42	1	64	3	152		19		50		3	
WHITE-CR. SPARROW		300	38	76	4	66	12	1	6	87	26	90	*	55	2	67	1	64	5	2	60		
WHITE-THR. SPARROW	83	78	87	44	21	39	119	109	174	79	137	391	1	261	21	150	119	114	26	48		30	
HARRIS' SPARROW														1									
LINCOLN'S SPARROW												1											
FOX SPARROW		2	4	2		1	15		1	1		5	1	11	4	1		2			*		
SWAMP SPARROW	13		1		1	3	22		4	8	8	21				10		3		1	*		
SONG SPARROW	25	2	80	38	22	26	93	34	73	86	135	413	24	158	25	150	11	40	21	29	22	67	
LAPLAND LONGSPUR												1											
SNOW BUNTING						1																	

DAY OF COUNT	D18	D26	D30	D18	D20	J1	D21	D19	J1	D27	J2	D19	D26	D19	J2	D18	J2	D18	D18	D18	D30	J2	
NUMBER OF SPECIES	73	47	46	44	50	42	54	43	60	57	64	85	45	63	49	75	48	63	38	59	52	36	
INDIVIDUALS	110269	2778	6231	1179	2147	10681	2597	11818	3511	2394	8655	97724	2417	6139	2094	15156	1743	7783	891	2944	816	468	
OBSERVERS	14	3	11	7	4	4	6	14	8	8	17	32	3	25	6	33	4	28	8	6	2	4	

* Indicates the species was recorded but not on the count day.

Dec. 19; 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky mostly cloudy; temp. 40 to 49°; wind SSW, 0-20 m.p.h.; all water open. Thirty-two observers in nine parties. Total party-hours 78 (43 on foot, 35 by car). Total party miles 475 (48 on foot, 427 by car). Total species 85; total individuals 97,724.

Waterfowl diversity was exceptionally low this winter, and the warm weather was probably responsible for the low numbers and diversity of northern finches, larks, etc. The large numbers of blackbirds, notably Common Grackles, were due in large part to what appeared to be a massive migrational movement; these individuals did not seem to be part of any known local roost, and their migration may have been stimulated by severe weather to the north of Kentucky. Carolina Wrens have recovered nicely, and House Finches are increasing rapidly. The Peregrine Falcon was noted by two experienced observers, Lene Rauth and L. D. Smith. The Indigo Bunting and Chipping Sparrow were both at the feeder of Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., where the latter species was also recorded last winter; both have been present for weeks and have been photographed. The Lincoln's Sparrow was recorded by Dottie Muntan in an area where the species has been noted in previous years. — Garrett Adams, Brian and Karen Anderson, Mary Bauer, Donald Blackburn, Kevin Donahoe, Muriel Doolittle, Patricia Henderer, Bob Hill, Mr. and Mrs. Daniel Knopf, F. H., F. X., and John Krull, Burt Monroe, Jr. (compiler), Burt Monroe III, Mark Monroe, Dottie Muntan, Eudoxia and Robert Noonan, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Martha Pike, Robert Quaife, Lene Rauth, Judy Robertson, Virginia Rommel, Carl Schultz, Helga Schutte, L. D. Smith, Anne and F. W. Stamm, Bob Zaremba (Beckham Bird Club).

SHELBYVILLE (center and habitat as described in 1982). Dec. 26; 8:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky cloudy with rain all day; temp. 40 to 50°; wind W-NW, 10 m.p.h. Three observers in one party. Total party-hours 9½ (2½ on foot, 7 by car). Total party miles 111½ (1½ on foot, 110 by car). Total species 45; total individuals 2,417. — John K. Brown, Todd Brown, W. H. Brown (compiler).

FRANKFORT (center and habitat as described in 1972). Dec. 19; 7:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky overcast, light rain and fog, water open; temp. 34 to 47°; wind W, 8-31 m.p.h. Twenty-five observers in 16 parties. Total party-hours 76 (52 on foot, 24 by car). Total party miles 331 (48 on foot, 283 by car). Total species 63; total individuals 6,139.

The Barn Owl, a first count record, was seen by the Morris party. The Harris' Sparrow, also a first count record, was found by Coskren and Morris and has subsequently been seen by many observers. It appeared to be a second winter male and was found in a fencerow with White-crowned Sparrows. The Peregrine Falcon was observed at close range during the period by W. H. Brown at a Frankfort rock quarry where numerous Rock Doves roost. Camburn and Justis counted 133 Black Vultures in a single flock near the Kentucky River north of Frankfort. Purple Finches were everywhere. Carolina Wrens and Eastern Bluebirds have continued a strong recovery. — Bill Blackburn, John and W. H. Brown, Keith Camburn, Laura and Rose Canon, Dennis Coskren, Manton Cornett, Peggy Durbin, Steve Edwards, Bill and Charles Grayson, Virginia Honaker, Ruth Housek, Howard Jones (compiler), Jeff Jones, Cathy Justis, Lynn Mekus, Robert Morris, Marla Nunnally, Glenn Raleigh, R. Watson, Suzanne Watson, Jim Williams, Tim Williams.

KLEBER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (center and habitat as described in 1972). Jan. 2; 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. Sky cloudy to partly cloudy; temp. 24 to 44°; wind NE, 3-20 m.p.h. Six observers in four parties. Total party-hours 32 (13 on foot, 19 by car). Total party miles 222 (12 on foot, 210 by car). Total species 49; total individuals 2,094.

Owls reported are the result of calling by Tim Towles. The scarcity of American Robins and the total absence of Cedar Waxwings is probably attributable to the lack of red cedar berries. Pileated Woodpeckers and White-breasted Nuthatches have increased in number. — Stuart Butler, Peggy Durbin, James Durell, Howard Jones (compiler), Tim Towles, Tim Williams.

LEXINGTON (center and habitat as described in 1978). Dec. 18; 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky clear in morning, cloudy in afternoon; temp. 28-45°; wind S, 5-10 m.p.h. Thirty-three observers in 15 parties. Total party-hours 91 (26 on foot, 65 by car). Total party miles 510 (30 on foot, 480 by car). Total species 76; total individuals 15,156. — Roger Applegate, Roger Barbour, Eugene and Ann Bradley, Mary Burns, Rose and Karen Canon, Dennis Coskren, Ron Duncan, Lyda Feck, Doris Ferm, Mike and Jean Flynn, Anna Mae Helton, Terry Hobbs, Terri Koontz, Betty Maxson, Bob Morris, Rob Perry, Tom Rae, Glenn Raleigh, Algie and Virginia Reece, Dawn Ross, Barbara and John Ruff, Marie Sutton, Andy and Marion Uterhart, Clara Wieland, Mike Williams, Jim Williams (compiler), Bernice Wood.

RICHMOND (center as described in 1982). Habitat: fencerows and roadsides 40%, woodland 20%, pasture and open fields 30%, lawns 10%. Jan. 2; 7:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 30 to 45°; wind SW, 0-10 m.p.h. Four observers in two parties. Total party-hours 19 (3 on foot, 16 by car). Total party miles 167 (5 on foot, 162 by car). Total species 48; total individuals 1,743. — John Fuller, William Lynch, Tammy Rhodus, Gary Ritchison (compiler).

DANVILLE (center Boyle County courthouse). Habitat 52% farmland, 18% woodland, 12% streamsides, 9% residential, 5% parks, 4% lakesides. Dec. 18; 7:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 27 to 45°; wind W, 10 m.p.h. Twenty-eight observers in nine parties. Total party-hours 63.4 (19.5 on foot, 43.9 by car). Total party miles 461 (13 on foot, 448 by car). Total species 63; total individuals 7,783. — Chauncey Alcock, Ernest Baird, Harry and Molly Caldwell, Ken Dickey, Neil and Virginia Eklund (compiler), Tobin Foster, Mrs. Tom Foster, John Gower, JoAnn and Mike Hamm, Edna and Frank Heck, Dorothy Belle Hill, Jack Kellam, J. W. Kemper, F. W. and Naomi Loetscher, Mike Marsh, Jack Newton, John Nichols, Dee Pendygraft, Les Reid, Joe Russell, Ellen Shiba, Tim Simpson, Charles Vahlkamp.

BURLINGTON (center and habitat as described in 1975). Dec. 18; 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky overcast; temp. 27 to 39°; wind SE, 5-15 m.p.h. Eight observers in three parties. Total party-hours 21 (14 on foot, 7 by car). Total party miles 170 (7 on foot, 163 by car). Total species 38, total individuals 891.

Two small flocks of waterfowl were seen but not identified as to species. Birds were in low numbers, possibly due to the warm weather. — Mike Andrews, Joanne Conradi, Gerri Kennedy, Laura Kob, Linda Kob, Lee McNeely (compiler), Lynda McNeely, George Schoen.

SOMERSET (center and habitat as described in 1980). Dec. 18; 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 24 to 48°; wind S, 0-10 m.p.h. Six observers in three parties. Total party-hours 23½ (6½ on foot, 17 by car). Total party miles 148 (5 on foot, 143 by car). Total species 59; total individuals 2,944. — Diane Elmore, Jackie B. Elmore, Sr. (compiler), Bill Moore, Mary Lou Moore, Ginger Murphy, Robert Murphy.

ROWAN COUNTY (center Morehead, Clark Hatchery, Cave Run Lake via Rt. 801 to Clay Lick Campground, to Rock Ford.) Habitat: fish hatchery, lake and shore, fields and mixed hardwood. Dec. 30; 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 23 to 35°; wind W, 1-3 m.p.h., heavy frost in morning. Two observers in one party. Total party-hours 8 (4 on foot, 4 by car). Total party miles 52 (6 on foot, 46 by car). Total species 52; total individuals 816.

Blackbirds were almost totally absent during the count period. There were larger numbers of individuals and higher numbers of species this year. The high points of the day were two immature Bald Eagles, a female Oldsquaw, and a Snow Goose. — Fred Busroe (compiler), Jeff Foster.

CARTER COUNTY (center Grayson Lake). Jan. 2; 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 30 to 40°; wind SW, 5-10 m.p.h. Four observers in one party. Total party hours 9 (8 on foot, 1 by car). Total party miles 7 (6 on foot, 1 by car). Total species 36; total individuals 468. — Jeffery Adams, Margaret Adams, James McCormick (compiler), Martha McCormick.

PERRY COUNTY (center Bonnyman). Habitat: woodland and woodland edges. Dec. 26; 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky cloudy; temp. 62°; wind calm; drizzle. Two observers in one party. Total party-hours 10 (9 on foot, 1 by car). Total party miles 15 (2 on foot, 13 by car). Total species 30; total individuals 124.

The count day had springlike weather, and it was very warm and very wet. Ruffed Grouse and Barred Owls are common in the area, but Great Horned Owls are becoming scarce. No unusual species were recorded on this count. — Don Spencer (compiler), Robert Sawyer.

CUMBERLAND GAP (center as decribed in 1982). Habitat: mesophytic forest 30%, residential 25%, reservoirs 15%, brushy clearings 15%, open fields 15%. Jan. 2; 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky mostly cloudy; temp. 40 to 50°; wind variable, 0-5 m.p.h. Four observers in one party. Total party-hours 8 (4 on foot, 4 by car, plus 7 hours at feeders). Total party miles 64 (3 on foot, 61 by car). Total species 33; total individuals 535.

This is the first year that a Bufflehead has been recorded on this count. Golden-crowned Kinglets were unusually common (22) as were Pine Siskins (24) and American Goldfinches (63). — Richard Cassell, Ross and Dorothy Chasteen, Ron Day, Danny and Maisie Hoskins, Barry Howard (compiler), Bill Taylor.

—H. E. Shadowen, Biology Department, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, 42101.

THE FALL MIGRATION SEASON, 1982

Anne L. Stamm

The 1982 Fall Migration was rather dull and uneventful. There were few detectable migration waves; warblers in some sections just filtered through. In some south-central and north-eastern locations the season seemed to be more interesting. Ducks were late in arriving and shorebird migration was below average. The Willet, White-rumped Sandpiper and American Avocets were among the most unusual shorebirds. A few rarities such as the White Ibis, Whistling Swan, Oldsquaw and Cattle Egrets kept birders afield.

Temperatures during the months of August and September averaged below normal. October and November proved to be a sharp contrast as temperatures averaged above normal. In Louisville on November 1 a high of 80 degrees was reached! A low of 32 degrees was not reached until October 22 and 26. The mild weather retarded migration and some species lingered beyond the normal departure dates.

Precipitation in the Louisville area averaged above normal in August and also slightly above normal in September. In western Kentucky intense storms in late August brought two to four inches of rain. Flash flood warnings were issued for Calloway, Trigg and Marshall counties. Flooding, mostly confined to road and low-lying areas, occurred in Allen, Barren, Clinton, Cumberland, Warren and Wayne counties. October's rainfall was below normal, and November was much above normal.

Loons through Cormorants — Common Loons were scattered across the state from Lake Pewee to Cave Run Lake, with one to four birds in most locations; earliest migrants were two at Louisville, November 4 (LR); with peak counts of eight at Hendrick's Creek, November 14 (RS); 25+ at Green River Lake, November 28 (JEl) and 28 at Cave Run Lake, November 29 (FB). Horned Grebe arrived later than normal; first migrant noted at Towhead Island, November 11 (DN); 52 at Shippingport Island, November 28 was the highest number reporter (LR). Pied-billed Grebe were scarce, with a high of 23 at Lake Pewee, October 5 (JH). Three Double-crested Cormorants were first seen at Louisville on September 14 (BPB), but a migratory flock of 19 flew over the Mayfair basin in Louisville, October 15 (DN) and another flock of 32 over Louisville, October 25 (BPB). It has been a number of years since such a high count has been noted in the Louisville area.

Herons through Ibis — Great Blue Heron were observed in fair numbers in most areas, with a peak count of 25+ at Green River Lake on August 15 (JEl); 24 at Jacobson Park, Lexington, November 22 (DC); 13 at Bend Bottoms, Boone County, September 26 (LMc); and 7 to 14 at the Falls of the Ohio from October 21 to end of period (m. ob.). Few observers mentioned the Green Heron, although they were "common" in northern Kentucky (LMc); one remained until November 10 at Somerset (JEl). The only reports of Little Blue Heron came from Louisville with one at the Falls of the Ohio on August 5 (LR), four (2 ad. & 2 im.) at Mayfair basins, August 9 and one still there August 15 (DN). Post-breeding movements of Cattle Egrets were few: two at Mayfair basin on October 10 (DN) and one at the Clark Fish Hatchery, November 18 (LK, FB) and two there

on November 22 and 24 (AS, LK, FB). A single Great Egret remained in and around the Falls of the Ohio from August 1 to November 13 (LR) and was seen by many observers; a flock of 11 was noted at Guist Lake, October 9 (WB) and 12 at Mayfair basins on the following day (FS, S), but 18 there later in the day (DN). Black-crowned Night Heron were seen regularly at the Falls of the Ohio throughout August and September, with a high count of 72 immatures and 13 adults on September 21 (LR), three still there on October 20 (BPB); an immature remained until November 11 and 22 at Clark Fish Hatchery (FB). A Yellow-crowned Night Heron at the Falls of the Ohio, October 21, was a late straggler (S, FS). A White Ibis was encountered in Wayne County at Powersburg on August 15 by Roger Guffey (*fide* DC).

Waterfowl — Quite unusual was a Whistling Swan on a small pond in the Glasgow area, August 29 (RS); it was seen the previous day by the farm manager, but was gone by August 30. Ducks and geese were late in arriving, at least in numbers. Forty migrant Canada Geese arrived at Ballard Waterfowl Management Area (hereafter BWMA) on September 18 (TY); 4800 there by mid-October and 9000 by November 30 (TY); a flock of 70+ observed at Otter Creek Park on October 31 (DS) and 500 on November 23 at Lake Barkley (BPB). Two White-fronted Geese had arrived at BWMA by September 18 (TY). Also a count of 5000 Snow Geese at BWMA was made on November 30 (TY). Duck migration was about average in northern Kentucky, "with Mallards and Wood Ducks providing best numbers" (LMc), but the majority of observers felt that migration was late and numbers did not appear until late in November. In western Kentucky, where we have our largest population of ducks, only 1000 had arrived by mid-October, but by the end of November there were some 20,000 at BWMA (TY). Black Ducks were reported in small numbers, with 25 as the largest number at Cave Hill Cemetery, October 10 (S, FS). Small numbers of Gadwall were reported from Jefferson, Pulaski and Rowan counties with up to 50 at Falls of the Ohio in November (no date-BPB). The peak count of Green-winged Teal was 54 at Lake Pewee on November 6 (JH). The flock of 35 American Widgeon at Willow Lake, November 25 was the highest number reported (S, FS) The 75+ Redheads at Green River Lake, November 28 were of special interest since there are few records from this section of the state (JEl) Although Ring-necked Ducks were scarce in the Louisville area, some 650 were present at Lake Pewee on November 14 (JH). The single Ring-necked, previously reported in the Louisville area on July 27, remained throughout the summer and early fall and was seen as late as October 21 (S) and November 4 (DH). Scarcely anyone mentioned the Canvasback and they were late in arriving: 14 at Lake Pewee on November 14 (JH); 1 at Louisville, November 25 (S, GA), but 49 there November 28 (LR). Three hundred Lesser Scaup were at Falls of the Ohio, November 22 (BPB), but apparently moved on. American Goldeneye and Bufflehead were reported in small numbers with 30 as the high for the latter species at Cox's Park, November 28 (JR). Apparently November 28 was a good migration day for waterfowl since rafts of ducks were seen at Cave Run Lake, but were too far away to identify (FB); 300+ Red-breasted Mergansers were at Green River Lake (JEl) and 500 in two rafts at Louisville (LR). Two female Oldsquaw were present at the Clark Fish Hatchery on November 18, 22, 24, and 29 (LK, FB, AS) and

provided the first record for the Cumberland Plateau. Four Black Scoters along the Ohio River, upstream from Louisville, November 22, were worthy of note (BPB). Five Ruddy Ducks at Long Run Park on October 19 tied the local early date (S, FS); highest count was 103 at Lake Pewee, November 8 (JH).

Vultures through Falcons — Turkey Vultures were reported in fair numbers with 20 at Otter Creek Park, September 19 (DS, FS, BBC) and 47 at Long Run County Park, October 24 (S, FS). The high count for the Black Vulture was 16 at Green River Lake, November 28 (JEl). A Goshawk appeared in the Fort Knox area on October 11 (JG). Single Sharp-shinned Hawks were present at the following locations between September 19 and November 25: Otter Creek Park (JG, BBC); Creason Park (JEl); Cumberland Falls (KOS); Bernheim Forest (BS, DD); Falls of the Ohio (S); and three in the Prospect area, September 26 (FK, JK). No large number of Cooper's Hawks were reported, but singles were widespread. Few Red-shouldered Hawks were reported. No major flights of Broad-winged Hawks were noted: 14 at Otter Creek Park, September 19 (JG, BBC); 75 at Louisville, September 21 (BPB) and a late straggler at Fort Wright, November 25 (EG). The first Bald Eagle arrived at BWMA on September 27 and by the end of the period there were five (3 ad. and 2 im.) (TY); six at Hendrick's Creek, November 14 (RS); an immature at the Clark Fish Hatchery, November 24, 29 (AS, FB, LK); and an immature along Ohio River at Louisville, November 23 (DN). Marsh Hawks were scarce, although four were seen at Green River Lake State Park, Taylor County, November 28 (JEl); singles reported elsewhere, with the earliest at Glasgow on September 6 (RS). Eight Ospreys were reported, with the earliest on August 22 at Louisville (S) and the latest at Green River Lake, October 21 (JEl). There were five sightings of the Peregrine Falcon: one over the Kentucky River at Shakertown, September 18 (DC); one at Surrey Hill Farm, Louisville, October 5 (BPB); one at Guist Lake, October 9 (WB); one at Falls of the Ohio, November 8 (BS, DD); and one near Doe Lake, November 30 (S, FS). A Merlin was seen "mobbing" a Turkey Vulture at Falls of the Ohio, September 18 and one on a Louisville farm, October 5 (BPB).

Cranes through Coots — Six Sandhill Cranes made their appearance at BWMA October 19 — the first time recorded there (TY). Thirty were seen over Bedford, Trimble County, November 5 (JY); good flight over the Louisville area, with 300-350 over Surrey Hill Farm (BPB) and 100+ over Westport Road, November 14 (DN) and 200+ on November 16 (C. Kaufmann *fide* BPB); and two late stragglers at Green River Lake, November 28 (JEl). Greatest concentrations of American Coots included 2600+ at Waitsboro Recreational Area in Pulaski County, November 5 (JEl) and 2000 at Lake Pewee, November 8 (JH).

Shorebirds — Shorebird migration on the whole was rather poor. Many areas were dry. No phalaropes were reported. Killdeer gathered early on the rock ledge of the Falls of the Ohio, with a total of 107 on August 19 (LR) and the number remained fairly constant until November 10 (BPB). The greatest number of Killdeer reported was 150+ at Clark Fish Hatchery in the northeastern section of the state, November 5 (FB); another fairly large count was 125+ at Green River Lake Wildlife Manage-

ment Area, November 28 (JEl). American Golden Plover were scarce and reported only from three areas: Falls of the Ohio, August 6 and 14 (LR, S, respectively), September 18-October 7 (BPB), with a high of four on October 1; Fishing Creek Recreational Area, October 4 (JEl); and Clark Fish Hatchery, November 8, 15, 18 (FB) and November 20 (KC), one bird each visit. Two Black-bellied Plover arrived at the Falls of the Ohio, August 18-22 (KC, BM) and one was still there August 25 (DN); three at Jonathan Creek flats, October 15-17 (CP) and one at Jacobson Park in Lexington, October 31-November 1 (RM, DC); no others reported. The Willet, a rare transient, was seen on two occasions: one bird at Falls of the Ohio, August 18 (KC) and another near Kentucky Lake, August 27 (MM, CP and J. Erwin). Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs were reported in very low numbers from all locations (m. ob.) Pectoral Sandpipers were widely spread, but numbers were low, with the exception of the 60+ at the Falls of the Ohio on August 2 (DN); only six remained the next day (S); stragglers remained until November 24 at Clark Fish Hatchery (FB). A White-rumped Sandpiper at the Falls of the Ohio on November 10 was late (BPB). All sightings of Baird's Sandpiper were from the Louisville area between August 3 (S) and October 3 (JEl). Least Sandpipers were unbelievably scarce (1 to 4 birds) in all locations reporting, although "several hundred peeps" were reported at Jonathan Creek (CP), but no specific species mentioned. Dunlin were first recorded at Jonathan Creek, October 15-17, with seven birds (CP), then eight at Green River WMA, October 31 (JEl) and a flock of 12 at Clark Fish Hatchery, November 8 (FB); four to fourteen at Falls of the Ohio, November 5-14 (BPB) and one to two remained in most locations until the end of the period. A count of nine Stilt Sandpipers at Jonathan Creek, September 13 was unusual for this rare fall transient (MM); three still there October 15-17 (CP); singles at two Louisville locations from August 14-September 20 (BBC, DN, BPB). Single Western Sandpipers were present at the Falls of the Ohio on three occasions: August 3 (S, FS), August 10 (LR) and August 14 (BBC): two at Green River Lake WMA, November 28, an extremely late date (JEl). Only a few records of the Buff-breasted Sandpiper were received: one to two birds at Louisville from August 25 (BBC) to September 18 (BPB); and one at Jonathan Creek, September 5 (MM). There were seven sightings of the Sanderling at the Falls of the Ohio, all of single birds, wtih the exception of three on one occasion and six on another, between the dates of August 2-September 21 (DN, S, DC, BPB). American Avocets were reported from four widely separated locations: three at Grayson Lake, August 9 (JMMc); two at Fishing Creek, October 11 (JEl); one at Jacobson Park, October 31-November 1 (RM, DC); and two at Falls of the Ohio, November 13 (DN, LR, BBC).

Gulls through Terns — There were few Herring Gulls in the Louisville area and only about 50 at Kentucky Dam and Lake Barkley on November 23 (BPB). A Ring-billed Gull showed up early at the Falls, August 6 and was seen later by many observers (LR); flock built up slowly and only 12 recorded on November 11 (JG), but 200+ were there on November 15 (S) and 250 later in the month (BPB); and 175 at Green River Lake, November 28 (JEl); an estimated 2000 at Kentucky Dam and Lake Barkley, November 23 (BPB). The species did not appear in Rowan County until November 5 (FB). A Franklin's Gull was a pleasant surprise on the Falls

of the Ohio, November 21 (BPB, DS, BBC *et al*), and was still present on November 25 (JEl). Bonaparte's Gulls were late in arriving and only four to six were seen by the end of the period at the Falls of the Ohio and in western Kentucky (BPB). Terns were very scarce: a single Forester's at Falls of the Ohio, August 29 (BBC) and September 4 (DS); a single Common Tern at the same place on September 4 (DS); a Least Tern on the same date and also on September 6 (DS, DN, respectively). One to four Caspian Terns were present at Louisville from August 5 to September 20 (m. ob).

Cuckoos through Woodpeckers — Cuckoos remained rather late: a Yellow-billed was still present at Eubank on October 20 (JEl) and a Black-billed at Clark Hatchery, October 22 established a late date (FB). Migration of the Common Nighthawk began on August 23 when 30-45 were seen at Louisville and Eubank (FS, JEl) and large flocks at Glasgow, August 29 (RS), but 150-200 passed over Audubon Park in Louisville, August 30-September 1 (JEl) and at Fort Knox with "heavy flights each night" September 2-6, with maximum of 200+ on September 5 (JG); late stragglers were seen October 4-10 at Fort Knox (JG), but one remained very late at Creason Park, November 11 (HF). Migration of the Chimney Swift was noted October 8 at Clark Fish Hatchery when 300+ were observed (FB). Numbers of Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers remained low.

Flycatchers through Swallows — A total of 15 Wood Pewee were found at Otter Creek Park, September 19 (JG, BBC). There were only two sightings of Olive-sided Flycatchers: one at Yellow Creek, Daviess County, September 4 (DL) and one at Fort Knox, September 29 (JG). A flock of 250 Rough-winged Swallows gathered on the power lines at Henderson, September 25 (FB). A Barn Swallow at Jonathan Creek on October 18 was a fairly late Straggler (MM). The Purple Martin migration was really in full swing between August 1-8, with the largest concentration at Shippingport Island, with an estimated 10,000 (DN) and only 1000 there the following day; smaller groups of 45-150 were noted in Seneca Park, Louisville on the latter date (S).

Corvidae through Thrushes — Fourteen Fish Crow were still present at the Columbus Ferry area on September 25 (RM, DC). Red-breasted Nuthatches were very scarce. A House Wren was seen as late as November 22 at the Falls of the Ohio (BPB). Few observers mentioned the Winter Wren, but a few were observed in Oldham and Jefferson counties in mid-October and November (DN, BBC, BPB). The only Long-billed Marsh Wren reported was one at Eubank on October 4-5 (JEl) and a single Short-billed Marsh Wren in the Louisville area, September 19 and 21 (BPB). A Gray Catbird lingered until November 14-16 in east Louisville (DN). Hermit Thrushes were few, but numbers of Eastern Bluebirds had increased over recent years.

Pipits through Vireos — Water Pipits were reported from five locations: two in the Louisville area, with one to 50 birds each (BPB); small flock of 20 at Jonathan Creek, (CP), three at Somerset (JEl); and 17 in a ploughed field near Guist Lake (WB); records were from September 18 to November 24 and 26. Several flocks of Cedar Waxwings were reported, with the largest number, 200+ at Eubank (JEl), September 22. There were

six reports of the Philadelphia Vireo, all of single birds, except for two at Creason Park.

Warblers — There were conflicting reports on the warbler migration. Most observers felt it was a rather dull season, others thought it average, but numbers remained low. There were, however, one or two detectable movements in September and October. Because of the mild fall, many species lingered later than usual. A Golden-Winged Warbler was still present at Louisville on October 8 (BPB). Orange-crowned Warblers were reported only from Louisville, with the latest at Falls of the Ohio on November 9 (BS, DD). Cape May Warblers were encountered on a number of occasions at Eubank between September 12 and October 2 (JEl); six at Fort Knox on September 16 (JG). A total of 50+ Yellow-rumped Warblers were seen at Happy Hollow Farm, Oldham County, October 16 (S, *et al*). Black-throated Green Warblers were visible from August 22 to October 16. A total of 12 Blackburnian Warblers were at Fort Knox on September 6 (JG). August 27 was a fairly early date for a Chestnut-sided Warbler in the Louisville area (S). On September 24 a "wave" of Bay-breasted Warblers was watched at Glasgow (RS); and 10 were at Fort Knox, September 16 (JG). A Palm Warbler arrived at the Falls of the Ohio on August 29 and provided an early state date (S). The only Mourning Warbler reported was one on September 6 at Eubank (JEl).

Blackbirds — A flock of 500 Common Grackle was noted in east Jefferson County, August 12 (S, FS); several thousand (including Red-winged Blackbirds and Starlings) at Somerset, November 17 (JEl). A Brewer's Blackbird at Louisville, October 25 was of interest (BPB).

Tanagers through Sparrows — Six Summer Tanagers were present at Fishing Creek, September 27 (JEl). A Rose-breasted Grosbeak at Eubank, October 21 was a late straggler (JEl). A Blue Grosbeak in song at Madisonville, August 24 was unusual (JH). A late Indigo Bunting was at Elizabethtown, November 22 (Mary Jones *fide* BM). Purple Finches were first reported on November 3 in Seneca Park (BS), but numbers were very low everywhere. House Finches reached Murray on September 20-26 (CP). Pine Siskins were unreported except for two at a feeder in the Valley Station area (Diane Ebel *fide* BPB). The sparrow migration in the Burlington area was "substandard." (LMc). Savannah Sparrows were found in "good" numbers at Louisville in mid-October (BPB). Only a few Vesper Sparrows were reported at Eubank and Louisville (JEl, BPB) in late October. Dark-eyed Juncos were late in arriving: October 3 at Prospect (JK), Louisville, October 4 (FS), Fort Knox, October 8 (JG) and at Glasgow, October 16 (RS) and numbers were low. Tree Sparrows were scarce. Small flocks of 16 to 20 Chipping Sparrows were observed at Happy Hollow Farm, Oldham County, October 16 (BBC) and on Surrey Hill Farm in mid-October (BPB). White-crowned Sparrows were late in arriving and in some areas were in low numbers. White-throated Sparrows were also late and first observed on October 8 at Fort Knox (JG) and Fort Wright (EG). An unusually early Lapland Longspur was heard and seen briefly as it flew up with Horned Larks on October 24 at Louisville (BPB).

The continued support of our members has made the Seasonal Reports possible. All birders are encouraged to submit notes for inclusion in the

reports. The period for the Winter Season is from December 1 through February 28. Notes should reach the writer by March 7, 1983.

Contributors — Garrett Adams (GA), W. H. Brown (WB), Fred Busroe (FB), Keith Camburn (KC), Kathryn Clay (KCl), Dennis Coskren (DC), Don Devitt (DD), Jackie Elmore (JEl), Helen Fisher (HF), John Getgood (JG), Ed Groneman (EG), David Habermel (DH), James Hancock (JH), Lewis Kornman (LK), John Krull (JK), Frank X. Krull (FK), Don Lacy (DL), James & Martha McCormick (JMMC), Lee McNeely (LMc), Michael Miller (MM), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (BM), R. Morris (RM), Doxie Noonan (DN), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BPB), Clell Peterson (CP), Lene Rauth (LR), Judy Robertson (JR), H. E. Shadowen (HS), Bernice Shannon (BS), Anne L. Stamm (S), F. W. Stamm (FS), Russell Starr (RS), Donald Summerfield (DS), Albert Surmont (AS), John Young (JY), Tom Young (TY). Other abbreviations — Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Kentucky Ornithological Society (KOS), Wildlife Management Area (WMA), many observers (m. ob.)

— 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville, 40222.

FIELD NOTES

AMERICAN AVOCETS IN PULASKI COUNTY

On the morning of October 11, 1982, I observed two American Avocets *(Recurvirostra americana)* at Fishing Creek Recreational Area. This area is located about four miles west of Somerset, Kentucky, on the shore of Lake Cumberland in Pulaski County. I viewed the avocets for more than 20 minutes from a distance of less than 75 feet. Both individuals were in typical winter plumage and were observed resting during the duration of the sighting. The weather was mostly sunny and cool. A cold front had passed through Kentucky the day before.

This observation appears to be the first record from Pulaski County. Though the avocets were seen later in the afternoon by Ginger Murphy, they were not observed the following day.

— Jackie B. Elmore, Sr., Rt. 1, Box 314 A, Eubank, Kentucky 42567

SUNFLOWER SEED COMPARISON

About four years ago I opened a fifty pound bag of sunflower seed that I had just purchased from the local feed store and was appalled to find it full of tiny "useless" black seeds. I reluctantly put out the seed only to find that it was widely accepted by my usual sunflower-loving birds. Since that time I have come to appreciate the small, black oil sunflower seed and now try to use it exclusively for feeding birds.

Soon after I began using this seed I realized that the piles of hulls below the feeders were not so large and feeders didn't seem to empty quite so fast. For some time I speculated that there was a greater percent of palatable sunflower per pound in this seed type than in the regular striped variety of seed. Recently, I put this theory to the test and thought publication of the results of these preliminary tests might be informative.

The large striped sunflower seed has a bulky, often loose hull around a relatively large heart. It is eaten by a great variety of birds, but not especially favored by the smaller finch species due to its large size. The black oil seed has a thinner, much tighter fitting hull around a somewhat smaller heart. This seed seems to be accepted by all of the birds which normally prefer sunflower seed, including Blue Jays and Cardinals, but is especially favored by the smaller sunflower eating birds, Carolina Chickadees, Tufted Titmice, nuthatches, American Goldfinches, Pine Siskins, Purple Finches, etc., because of its more manageable size.

Results of my samples are listed in Table 1. As can be seen in the table, almost half of the gross weight of the striped seed is hull while only slightly over one-fourth of the gross weight of the black oil seed is hull. This cost efficiency is based on the assumption of equal costs for the two seed types. In actuality, black oil seed invariably costs about $1.00 less per fifty pounds in the Louisville area which makes this cost efficiency even more obvious.

Sample sizes of 100 were used for all tests, and variation between lots was so small that I believe this to be sufficient.

It is possible that some variation exists between years or suppliers, but I would think that this variation is minimal.

TABLE 1	stripped seed	black oil seed
ave. weight of single seed	.1442 gr	.0417 gr
number of seeds/pound	3,143	10,890
% of hulls by weight	48.9	27.1
%of hearts by weight	51.1	72.9
cost of 1 lb. hearts	47¢	33¢
rel. cost of 50 lbs.	$23.50	$16.50
number of samples of 100 for ave. wt. of seed	4	4
number of samples of 100 for % weights	1	2

—BRAINARD PALMER-BALL, JR., 8207 Old Westport Rd., Louisville, Kentucky 40222.

NEWS AND VIEWS

K.O.S. SPRING MEETING

Our spring meeting is scheduled for Barren River State Park April 22 through 24. Reservations at the lodge should be made at your earliest convenience. Camping is also available. This is an excellent locality to observe spring migration and renew acquaintances. Those interested in making a presentation at the Friday evening program should contact the Program Chairman, Blaine Ferrell, Dept. of Biology, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green 42101.

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OUR COVER

The photograph of the Osprey was taken by K.O.S. member W. H. Brown in Shelby County in November, 1979.

THE EFFECT OF TIME OF DAY ON A WINTER BIRD SURVEY

Robert Altman

The fact that time of day has a direct influence on the number of birds enumerated during breeding bird surveys is well documented in the ornithological literature (Emlen, 1971; Mikol, 1980; Robbins and VanVelzen, 1967; and many others). However, only a few workers have recognized its importance in winter bird surveys (Robbins, 1972; Shields, 1977). Colquhoun (1940) said that the standard time in winter for censusing is throughout the morning, and most studies of wintering birds have used morning census hours (Emlen, 1972; Kircher, 1975). Shields (1977) censused birds in winter and found a variation in the results throughout the morning hours. McComb and Moriarity (1981) censused wintering birds in eastern Kentucky in the early morning and late afternoon hours, but did not report any differences in the results. Howell (1951) conducted a roadside census for a full year with an equal number of morning and afternoon counts, and found one species, the Common Nighthawk *(Chordeiles minor)*, with higher densities in the afternoon; but he did not break his results down into seasons. Only Robbins (1972) has directly compared morning and afternoon counts of wintering birds, and he found two species, the Golden-crowned Kinglet *(Regulus satrapa)*, and the Slate-colored Junco *(Junco hyemalis)* with significantly higher counts in the afternoon. The objective of this study was to determine if time of day had an effect on the results of a survey of birds wintering in a small central Kentucky woodlot.

Field work was performed at Camp Catalpa Park and Bird Sanctuary, Madison County, Kentucky. The study area is a four-acre deciduous woodlot located one mile east of Richmond, Kentucky and is managed by the Richmond Parks and Recreation Department.

Over 50% of the canopy is comprised of catalpa trees *(Catalpa bignonioides)*, and the rest is mostly osage orange *(Maclura pomifera)* and American hackberry *(Celtis occidentalis)*. Other trees present in small numbers include: American elm *(Ulmus americana)*, silver maple *(Acer saccharium)*, sugar maple *(Acer saccharum)*, shagbark hickory *(Carya ovata)*, eastern red cedar *(Juniperus virginianus)*, and cherry (*Prunus* spp.) There is an abundance of snags which encourages the presence of cavity and snag dependent species of birds.

About 50% of the understory is comprised of small saplings and fallen trees covered by a dense growth of honeysuckle (*Lonicera* spp.) The remaining understory is open with short grass that is mowed throughout the summer. A fence surrounding the study area is overgrowu with small trees and bushes and provides a noticeable edge effect with the adjacent habitats. On two sides of the area is pasture, and the other two sides are fields of a drained lake bed.

Field work was conducted from January 4 to February 27, 1981. To assess the effect of time of day on bird numbers, 16 visits were made in the morning and 16 were made in the afternoon, always on different days. Morning surveys were done between 7:30 a.m. and noon, and afternoon surveys between 1:00 p.m. and 5:30 p.m. The surveys were done at various times during these periods to maximize the likelihood of recording species that might be present only at certain times of the day.

An existing hiking trail that runs through the park was utilized as the survey route, and it took approximately one hour to complete a survey. The procedure was to walk slowly with stops made for visual or auditory identification of a bird. A conscious effort was made to keep track of bird movements and avoid double counting of birds. Only those birds seen or heard calling inside the study area were recorded. Birds flying over were not recorded unless they were observed to land in the study area.

Adverse weather conditions such as high winds or precipitation can make birds less conspicuous (Colquhoun, 1940), so field work during these times was avoided. The attempt was made to conduct the surveys under similar environmental conditions.

A total of 971 contacts of 30 different species was recorded during the study. Three tables summarize the results. The mean numbers for all surveys and for morning and afternoon surveys are presented in Table 1. A list of the 12 species with a frequency of occurrence greater than 40% is presented in Table 2. Species relative abundance is correlated with time of day in Table 3, and only the nine species with a relative abundance greater than 1.0 were included in this analysis.

The morning surveys yielded a larger number of birds and species than the afternoon surveys. This agrees with the findings of Robbins (1972), and implies that the greatest amount of winter bird activity is during the morning hours.

Although most species showed higher frequency of occurrence and relative abundance figures for the morning, the reverse was true for a few species. Of the 12 species listed in Table 2, two occurred more frequently in the afternoon than the morning, the Common Flicker and the Red-bellied Woodpecker. Their relative abundance figures were too small to be analyzed in Table 3, but two other species, the Eastern Bluebird and the Northern Junco, had higher abundance figures for the afternoon. In summary, the Common Flicker and the Red-bellied Woodpecker occurred more frequently in the afternoon, and the Eastern Bluebird and the Northern Junco showed higher abundance figures in the afternoon; therefore, the results of a morning survey would not have been an accurate index of their populations during the winter.

The results suggest that surveys during the morning hours will contact a larger number of birds, but some species may show higher relative abundance or frequency of occurrence figures for the afternoon. In evaluating this statement it is important to remember that these differences may result from a reduced detectability during a particular part of the day rather than any actual differences in birds present. Considering this, an ideal method might be the alternating of survey times between morning and afternoon, and then using the higher count for each species as a population index. The obvious disadvantage to this method is that you would require twice as much time, but if feasible to the researcher it may yield a more accurate analysis of a winter avian population.

Table 1. Survey results as a function of time of day.

	Mean number of contacts	Mean Number of species
16 morning surveys	36.1	12.1
16 afternoon surveys	24.6	9.8
32 total surveys	30.3	10.9

Table 2. Species frequency of occurrence as a function of time of day.

	Morning Surveys		Afternoon surveys		Total surveys	
	no.	%	no.	%	no.	%
Downy Woodpecker	16	100	16	100	32	100
Carolina Chickadee	16	100	15	94	31	97
Northern Cardinal	15	94	14	88	29	91
Tufted Titmouse	12	75	12	75	24	75
American Goldfinch	15	94	6	38	21	66
Eastern Bluebird	10	63	10	63	20	63
Song Sparrow	11	69	8	50	19	59
Red-bellied Woodpecker	7	44	11	69	18	56
Starling	11	69	4	25	15	47
White-breasted Nuthatch	8	50	5	31	13	41
Northern Junco	7	44	6	38	13	41
Common Flicker	4	25	9	56	13	41

Table 3. Species relative abundance as a function of time of day.

	Total contacts	Mean of 16 morning surveys	Mean of 16 afternoon surveys	Mean of 32 surveys
American Goldfinch	160	8.37	1.62	5.00
Carolina Chickadee	112	3.50	3.50	3.50
Downy Woodpecker	87	2.81	2.63	2.72
Northern Cardinal	87	3.19	2.25	2.72
Northern Junco	73	1.87	2.68	2.28
Eastern Bluebird	71	1.25	3.19	2.22
Starling	65	3.50	0.56	2.03
Tufted Titmouse	55	2.00	1.44	1.72
Song Sparrow	48	2.12	0.90	1.50

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THE WINTER SEASON OF 1982-83

Anne L. Stamm

A very warm winter with less snowfall and higher temperatures than normal was evident throughout the state. High temperature records were set on December 25, with 70° at Lexington and 66° at Louisville. The first cold spell developed around January 19 and was followed by an ice storm two days later. The first measurable snow occurred on February 6 when three to five inches fell in the state, but by the end of the month temperatures were up in the sixty degree range. Rainfall was heavy in December and in some sections was about two inches above normal. Precipitation for January and February averaged below normal for the months.

Most observers felt that the winter was rather dull and uneventful. Ducks were scarce and many remained in the north because of the mild weather. There was some noticeable southward movement during the third week of January bringing Common Goldeneye and Buffleheads. Nevertheless, there were some interesting species of birds which were present during the period such as the Whistling Swan, Barnacle Goose, Oldsquaw in eastern Kentucky, Thayer's and Laughing Gulls in western Kentucky and the Peregrine Falcon sightings. The Harris' Sparrow brought excitement to Lexington and Frankfort observers. Evening Grosbeaks and Pine

Siskins were virtually absent. Many observers felt that fewer than the usual number of birds were coming to feeders. This was slightly changed after the ice storm, when Purple Finches and American Goldfinches began arriving, but only in small numbers. Some species lingered beyond the normal departure dates.

Loons through Herons — One to six Common Loons were seen in December throughout the state from Kentucky Lake to Cave Run Lake, with 17 as the greatest number at the latter location on December 3 (FB). The species remained throughout the period at Cave Run Lake and at least three were there January 7-February 21 (FB). No large flights of Horned Grebe were reported, and only small numbers of Pied-billed Grebe were present in January and February. Double-crested Cormorants were reported: two at Falls of the Ohio, December 12 (BPB), one there February 20 (LR); one at Barkley Dam December 16 and February 20 (MM, CP, J. Erwin) and three there on February 27 (BPB). Great Blue Heron remained well into the winter with 10 at Mayfair Basins (Louisville) on February 27 (J. Callahan *fide* JEl) and 16 at Cave Run Lake on January 7 (FB).

Waterfowl — An immature Whistling Swan was an unexpected find on the lake at Long Run County Park, January 16 (Austin Bloch *fide* BM). Waterfowl were much more scarce than in most winter seasons. The Canada Goose population at Ballard Waterfowl Management Area (hereafter BWMA) was only 17,500 at the end of December and peaked in mid-February with 40,000 (TY); this is much lower than in most seasons. A fair number — 6,100 — was recorded at Muddy Slough, Frank Sauerheber Refuge, Henderson County (RH, RMM) on January 13. A flock of 2,000 Canada Geese were also present in Fulton County on February 3 (MB); northward movements began in February with several flocks flying over Glasgow on February 3 (RS) and only 1,000 left at BWMA on February 23 (TY). A very interesting record was that of a Barnacle Goose at Muddy Slough, January 13, feeding with Canada Geese (RH, RMM *fide* JD). A description was recorded and a field sketch prepared on site by the two observers. Nineteen White-fronted Geese were seen in Fulton County in that part of Reelfoot Lake which is in Kentucky, February 3 (MB). The Snow Goose population peaked at 6,000 at BWMA, December 31 and only 3,000 remained by mid-February (TY). An immature Snow Goose at Goose Pond, Cave Run Lake area, December 30 to January 7, with Canada Geese was of interest (FB). At BWMA the FWS count of the ducks at the end of December was 20,000 (TY). One thousand Mallards were seen in Fulton County on February 3 (MB) and smaller numbers reported elsewhere. Black ducks were in low numbers. A single Gadwall lingered at a small pond in Danville from mid-December to March 2 (FL), and three male Pintail were seen in a cornfield at Harrodsburg, January 22 (LR). A pair of Shovelers in Fulton County on February 3 and a female at the Fish Hatchery, Rowan County on February 10 and 17 were probably early arrivals (MB and FB, respectively). A total of 543 Ring-necked Ducks was counted at Lake Pewee on December 21, and 345 were still there on January 2 (JH). Three Greater Scaup were at Shippingport Island on December 11 (S *et al*) and still present on December 19 (S, FS); a few at Towhead Island January 25 (S, FS); and one to 20 along the Ohio

River at various locations, near Louisville from January through February (BPB). Twenty-two Bufflehead were noted at Lake Pewee on December 1 (JH). A female Oldsquaw was present at the Arnold Mitchell Fish Hatchery from December 3 to January 7 when the ponds froze over (FB). No scoters were reported. There were 107 Ruddy Ducks at Lake Pewee on December 14, but numbered dwindled to 23 by January 2 (JH). Hooded Mergansers in small numbers were recorded in late December from Louisville to the Cave Run Lake area, but a count of 194 at Kentucky and Barkley Lakes on December 18 (CP) was the highest number reported; 15 were still there on February 14 (BPB). A single Common Merganser remained in the Louisville harbor from December 9 to January 23 (m. ob.); four at Green River Lake, January 9 (JEl); 15 at Cave Run Lake, February 17 (FB); 36 at Barkley and Kentucky Lakes, December 18 (CP), but about 100 there on February 4 (BPB).

Raptors — A flock of 14 Turkey Vultures was seen on a number of occasions at Long Run County Park during January and February (S, FS); a flock of 20 on February 27 in Fulton County (BPB) and 20-25 on the same date in Oldham County may have been migrating birds (MS). The flock of 133 Black Vultures, December 19, just north of Frankfort, was of special interest (K. Camburn, Cathy Justin, *fide* HJ); 10 in Hart County, February 1 (SK); several others in various locations, but in small numbers. Two adult Goshawks were reported: an injured bird picked up in the Louisville area and taken to the Zoo for rehabilitation (D. Ebel *fide* BPB); and one at Leitchfield observed many times during the period (*fide* KC). Four single Sharp-shinned Hawks were reported and two of the observations were of birds perched on or near feeders at Danville (FL) and Madisonville (JH). One to two Cooper's Hawks were reported from nine localities in central Kentucky (m.ob.). Red-tailed Hawks were more common than usual at Danville (FL); 10 were recorded in western Kentucky, February 3 (MB); 42 were tabulated on the January eagle survey (m.ob.); a half albino bird on January 23, near Shelbyville (DN, BPB); and an almost complete albinistic bird, near Leitchfield, during the period (KC). Red-shouldered Hawks continued to be scarce. Rough-legged Hawks were quite common at Danville (FL); three at Harrodsburg, January 27 (RM); three in northeast Louisville, January 16 (BBC); two birds in the light phase, January 9, near Phil (JEl); all others were singles and were widespread. A total of 135 Bald Eagles, six Golden Eagles and one unclassified as to species was tabulated on the January eagle survey (JD). One to four Marsh Hawks were sighted from eleven localities (m.ob.). Two Peregrine Falcon were reported: one on December 28, near Frankfort (WB) and one January 23, near Harrodsburg (LP, BPB, DN). A Merlin was seen at Louisville, December 28 (JR). American Kestrel were in good numbers all across the state, with 72 counted on the eagle survey (m.ob.).

Cranes through shorebirds — Three Sandhill Cranes were seen flying over Warren County, February 26 (B. Ferrell *fide* HS) and other early migrants were the two in Oldham County, the following day (J. Callahan, *fide* JEl). American Coots probably wintered at Lake Pewee since 700 were present on December 1, 222 on January 2 and 328 on February 23 (JH). Eighty Killdeer were seen at Caney Creek, December 5 (JEl). American Woodcock song-flights were noted at Murray on February 14-26 (MM);

and at Louisville on February 18 (DN); one flushed at Glasgow, February 20 (RS). Common Snipe were scarce this winter. A few shorebirds lingered beyond normal departure dates and included a Dunlin at Green River Lake, December 8 and one at Brown Power Plant, near Dix Dam, January 26 and a Western Sandpiper in the same area as the Dunlin on December 8-January 30 (JEl *et al*).

Gulls and Terns — Gulls were in lower numbers this season. One hundred Herring Gulls were present at Barren River Reservoir, January 1 (W. Mason *fide* RS); 100+ at Barkley and Kentucky Lake Dams, December 30 (BPB), 150 there, February 3 (MB), but 1,000 there the following day (BPB); no more than 20 at the Falls of the Ohio during the early part of the season (BPB, S), none there January 29 (S). Highest count of Ring-billed Gulls was 1,700 at Barkley and Kentucky Lakes, February 3 (MB), much smaller numbers elsewhere. An adult and one first-winter Thayer's Gull showed up at Kentucky and Barkley Lake Dams, February 4 (BPB) and oddly enough a Laughing Gull was seen at the latter location, December 30 (photo reviewed—BPB). Sixty-five Bonaparte's Gulls were at Falls of the Ohio, December 8 (BPB); smaller numbers there on December 10 (S, FS) and one January 23 (BPB); 50 at Kentucky Lake, February 4 (BPB). A Forster's Tern on January 27 at Louisville was unusual (BPB, LR).

Doves through Woodpeckers — Mourning Doves were in good numbers and well distributed; heard in song all during January at Danville (FL) and nest building at Louisville, February 21 (BPB). A Ringed Turtle Dove was present in Anchorage in late February (L. Lose). Three to five Short-eared Owls were present at Harrodsburg, January 16-February 12 (RM, m.ob.). Red-headed Woodpeckers were below last winter's numbers, and the CBC's indicated a decrease of about 47%. Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers seemed to be in low numbers — only a few singles reported.

Flycatchers through Wrens — One to three Eastern Phoebes were present in late December in eight locations (m.ob.). Horned Larks were scarce, particularly in the Louisville area; thirty were seen south of Hickman, February 3 (MB), but "hundreds" were in Fulton County, February 26-27 (BPB). At Danville there seemed to be a noticeable drop in the Common Crow (FL), but elsewhere there were good numbers. Red-breasted Nuthatches were scarce at Danville, Eubank, Louisville, and Glasgow, but in heavily wooded areas such as Bernheim Forest and Mammoth Cave National Park they were present in fairly good numbers (m.ob.). A House Wren at Somerset on December 22 was a late straggler (JEl). The Carolina Wren has made good progress in its recovery in most areas. Winter wrens were thought to be much more numerous this winter in Hart County (SK); none were seen at Danville (FL); eight at Louisville, December 19 (BPB); three at Shakertown, January 27 (RM).

Mimids through Shrikes — A Brown Thrasher was known to winter in a Danville yard (FL). The mild winter was apparently responsible for the 42 which appeared on the state CBC's (m.ob.). Some areas noted a drop in the American Robin population and this probably was due to the scarcity of juniper berries (m.ob.). The Eastern Bluebird appeared to be

making progress in its recovery all across the state. Golden-crowned Kinglets were up in number all across the state, particularly in Mammoth Cave National Park, Natural Bridge State Park, and Bernheim Forest. Ruby-crowned Kinglets were in low numbers. A small flock of Water Pipits was seen at Jonathan Creek in mid-December (CP); three at Louisville on February 3 (BPB) and one at Lake Barkley, February 26 (BPB, CP) may have been wintering birds. Cedar Waxwings were scarce particularly in Frankfort, Lexington and Louisville. Loggerhead Shrike numbers were slightly below that of last year.

Warblers through Blackbirds — A Palm Warbler was present throughout the period in a Danville yard (FL). Yellow-rumped Warblers were scarce in Louisville, Bowling Green, Danville and the eastern section of the state (m.ob.). Eastern Meadowlarks declined on the CBC's by 17%. There were no blackbird roosts in Warren County (HS) and the population was down at Glasgow (RS). However, several thousand were going to a roost nightly during the period, two miles north of Somerset (JEl). Spring arrivals began appearing on February 10 when 3,000 were in trees along the roadside in Oldham County and included Common Grackles, Red-winged Blackbirds, Rusty Blackbirds and three female Brewer's Blackbirds (S, FS); also, two male and one female Brewer's on December 18 at Danville (FL).

Fringillids — An Indigo Bunting wintered at Louisville and was watched at a feeder from December 8 through the end of the period (BPB). Evening Grosbeaks were practically absent: two females at a Valley Station feeder, January 16 (Mrs. A. Steilberg *fide* DS) and a few on February 18 at Owensboro (M. Greenwell, Emogene Lashbrook). Purple Finches were in low numbers at Bowling Green (HS), Danville (FL), Glasgow (RS), Murray (CP), and in Pulaski County (JEl). At Frankfort the species was reported as "everywhere" (HJ) and good numbers were at Falls of Rough (KC). A few began appearing at feeders in the Louisville area about the third week of January (S, BPB), yet some feeders had none. House Finches were present in December, but numbers increased in February, with high counts of 45 at a Morehead feeder; 75 at Somerset (JEl); and 200+ at Eubank (JEl); and considered a "pest" at Danville (FL). They were widespread from Hopkins County to Carter and Rowan counties in eastern Kentucky (m.ob.). Although 24 Pine Siskins were found on the CBC in Bell County (RC), the species was practically absent this winter. Several dozen Savannah Sparrows were seen in Fulton County, February 26-27 (BPB). Tree Sparrows were scarce all across the state. There were two records of the Chipping Sparrow this winter: one at a Louisville feeder from December 14-22 (BPB) and one at a feeder in Madisonville, January 4 (JH). An unexpected bird was a Harris' Sparrow (2nd-year bird) on December 19 (RM and D. Coskren). The bird remained with White-crowned Sparrows throughout the period (RM) and was viewed by many observers. Decreases were noted for White-crowned and White-throated Sparrows at Murray (CP), the former species showed some decline in Louisville (S) and the latter at Morehead (FB). Swamp Sparrows were in low numbers everywhere. Twenty-five Lapland Longspurs were seen in Fulton County on February 26 (BPB).

Reports for the Migration Season (March, April and May) should reach the writer by June 7, 1983. These seasonal reports are made possible through the cooperation of our members. Those contributing notes are listed below.

Contributors — Michael Bierly (MB), W. H. Brown (WB), Richard Cassell (RC), Kathryn Clay (KC), James Durell (JD), Jackie Elmore (JEl), Ed Groneman (EG), James W. Hancock (JH), Randall Hedges (RH), Steve Kistler (SK), Howard P. Jones (HJ), Frederick Loetscher (FL), Michael Miller (MM), Robert Morris (RM), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (BM), Robert M. Morton (RMM), Clell Peterson (CP), Doxie Noonan (DN), Brainard Palmer-Bali, Jr. (BPB), Larry Peavler (LP), Lene Rauth (LR), Judy Robertson (JR), H. E. Shadowen (HS), Anne L. Stamm (S), F. W. Stamm (FS), Russell Starr (RS), Margaret Sullivan (MS), Donald Summerfield (DS), Tom Young (TY). Other abbreviations — Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Christmas Bird Count (CBC), Ballard Waterfowl Management Area (BWMA), Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS).

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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Spring Meeting April 22-24, 1983

The 60th annual spring meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society met at Barren River State Resort Park on April 22-24, 1983.

The Friday evening session was called to order by the president, Pierre Allaire. He introduced the vice-president, Blaine Ferrell, who presented the four speakers for the evening: Dan Twedt with the Fish and Wildlife Service — Influence of Feed Pellet Size on Starling Consumption; Paul W. Sturm — a collection of bird slides from his 30 years of birding and traveling; Bob Brown — Feeding habits of Kentucky Owls; and Pierre — Nest Box Selection by Bluebirds.

Field trips for Saturday morning were announced: 7:45 — Wayne Mason and Herb Shadowen to Dr. and Mrs. Starr's Farm, Blaine Ferrell to the dam and spillway area. At 8:00, Bert Powell would lead a group down the Nature Trail near the lodge. At 10:00, the park naturalist would lead a trip featuring wildflowers to Saltpeter cave. Wayne Mason had a driving tour of the area prepared where members could bird around the lake on their own.

A social hour followed the meeting.

Saturday morning was rainy and cold. Birding was greatly hampered by weather on the field trips.

At 2:00 p.m. Bob Brown gave a slide presentation of the area where he worked as a Peace Corps volunteer in Upper Volta in western Africa, including birds that he photographed there.

An exhibit from Western Kentucky University Biology Dept. was on

hand for members to experience warblers by sight and sound. Also Anne Stamm brought an art exhibit of paintings by Howard Rollins which are a part of the Kentucky Ornithological Society's collection housed at the University of Louisville library.

The Board of Directors met at 4:00 p.m. in the lodge.

Saturday evening Dr. and Mrs. W. R. Kingsolver gave a slide-movie presentation of their trip to China in Sept.-Oct. 1982. They emphasized past anihilation of wildlife, the pressures on the environment, and trends in conservation in today's People's Republic of China.

The K.O.S. honored Dr. Herb Shadowen with a plaque, presented by the president, in appreciation for his 10 years of service as editor of The Kentucky Warbler. Dr. Shadowen retires as editor after the May issue and Dr. Blaine Ferrell has been elected to fill the editorial position.

Dr. Ferrell recorded the group's observations of 81 species. Eight species were added on Sunday morning field trips making a total of 89 species for the meeting.

There were 63 members and guests registered for the meeting. The Fall meeting will be held at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park September 23-25, 1983.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Kingsolver
Recording secretary

BIRDS OBSERVED AT THE SPRING MEETING, 1983

Common Loon, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Mallard, Blue-winged Teal, Northern Shoveler, Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture, Cooper's Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Osprey, American Kestrel, Bobwhite, Killdeer, Upland Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Solitary Sandpiper, Ring-billed Gull, Common Tern, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Barred Owl, Chimney Swift, Belted Kingfisher, Common Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Yellow-bellied Sapsucker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Kingbird, Eastern Phoebe, Horned Lark, Tree Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Purple Martin, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, American Robin, Wood Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Golden-crowned Kinglet, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Tennessee Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, House Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Brewer's Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Scarlet Tanager, Cardinal, Indigo Bunting, Purple Finch, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Savannah Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Dark-eyed Junco, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Fox Sparrow, Swamp Sparrow, Song Sparrow; total species 89.

ATTENDANCE AT THE SPRING MEETING, 1983

AUBURN: Dan Twedt
BOWLING GREEN: Dr. and Mrs. Blaine Ferrell, Mr. and Mrs. Mike Jones, Harold Moore, Mr. and Mrs. William Mathes, Wayne Mason, H. E. Shadowen, Allen Stickley, Bob Wurster
CARLISLE: Dr. and Mrs. Wendell Kingsolver
FRANKFORT: Howard Jones
GLASGOW: Mr. and Mrs. Howard Jones, Dr. and Mrs. Russell Starr
HAZARD: Don Spencer
JACKSON: Dr. and Mrs. Pierre Allaire
LEITCHFIELD: Mr. and Mrs. Montelle Wilson
LEXINGTON: Jane Bolotin, Betty Day, Dr. and Mrs. William McComb, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Williams
LOUISVILLE: Bob Brown, Katherine Colburn, John Krull, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Martha Pike, Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm, Mr. and Mrs. Donald Summerfield
MACEO: Mike Brown, Joey Brown, Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Powell
MOREHEAD: Fred Busroe
MURRAY: Clell Peterson, Mr. and Mrs. Paul Sturm
OWENSBORO: Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Iles, Mary Lydia Greenwell, William T. Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wilson
PERRY: Dennis Sandlin
STANLEY: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stevenson
WEST LIBERTY: Mary Elam, Helen Wells
DYERSBURG, TN: Joel Bonnell, Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Leggett

FIELD NOTES

BEHAVIOR OF CROWS (CORVUS BRACHYRHYNCHOS) IN LEXINGTON

There has long been a winter crow roost in the vicinity of Lexington, Kentucky. During the 1960s the birds would fly over the city each afternoon in the winter from northwest to southeast. Flights would begin about 4:00 p.m. and last about an hour. The birds were apparently moving from a feeding area to a roost, neither close to the city. The flights were high, well beyond the range of a shotgun. Attempts to locate the roost by following the flights in a car were unsuccessful. I suspect the roost was along the Kentucky River in an area of difficult access to man.

During the 1970s the behavior of crows at Lexington changed. In 1977 I described the changes in foraging behavior as these birds of legendary wariness adapted to the urban environment (Kentucky Warbler 53:30). I shall now describe a change in roosting behavior.

About 1972 Jarvis Hudson told me he had discovered a crow roost. He said many thousands of the birds were roosting on the ground in fields along the Old Frankfort Pike. Apparently the birds moved their roosting site to be close to what had become a major feeding area, the city dump and landfill on Old Frankfort Pike.

The next move of the roost was into the city to the corner of Mason Headley Road and South Broadway. This site was an open field with scattered large trees and reasonably free from human disturbance. Last year, when this area was being converted into a parking structure for St. Josephs Hospital the crow roost moved across Mason Headley Road to the Par Three Golf Course. A crow roost also became established at the Red Mile, especially in trees across Forbes Road from the race track, in an area also free from human disturbance.

In January 1982 I received reports that crows were roosting in trees in residential areas, especially in the vicinity of Bell Court. Upon investigating, however, I found the crows were not actually roosting in these areas. They would come into the trees in late afternoon with their numbers building continuously until dusk. Then they would all leave, apparently to roost at the golf course and the Red Mile.

So far as I can determine, crows began roosting close to human and vehicular traffic in November 1982. The birds descended upon the University of Kentucky campus in late afternoon. At 5:00 p.m. generally no crows were visible but by 5:30 they would be milling about in the sky in great shifting flocks. At dusk they would descend into the trees to spend the night. Crows roosted in trees at various campus locations and on the flat roofs of the T. H. Morgan Biological Sciences Building and the Chemistry-Physics Building.

Large numbers of crows roosting on campus constitute a genuine nuisance. Droppings littered the grounds, streets and sidewalks. The odor of a chicken yard prevailed. Grounds workers at UK hosed off the streets and sidewalks each morning. In the late afternoon and at night people were hesitant to walk across campus without umbrellas. Efforts to frighten off the crows by clapping hands and books beneath the roosts were unsuccessful.

Some crow shooting was done with shotguns by someone on several different nights. After the shooting the appearance of crows on campus became irregular, and the birds became restless. For example, I could find no crows on campus December 11. On December 14 there were crows, and I tried to make an estimate of numbers. However, the birds were wary, rising as I approached, and usually moving to other trees. I would count a group of 10, then try to estimate 50 and then 100, and finally try to estimate how many blocks of 100 were in a tree. In every case some of the group would leave before I could finish calculations for a single tree. The best estimate that I could get was that there were more than 1,000 crows at one time in a large hackberry tree beside the Pharmacy Building. Many other trees held crows at that time; there must have been at least several thousand crows roosting on campus.

Dense flocks of crows roosting on the outer branches put considerable strain on the trees. Many branches broke. In one sugar maple beside the student center I counted four hanging branches that I estimated at four inches (10 cm) or more in diameter at the point of breakage.

— Wayne H. Davis, School of Biological Sciences, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky 40506.

CARDINAL WITH BILL ABNORMALITY

On January 6, 1983 I captured a male Cardinal *(Cardinalis cardinalis)* with an unusual bill abnormality. The two halves of the lower mandible were not fused, and the anterior portion of the right half extended above the bottom edge of the upper mandible.

Although the bird appeared to be in good health, this abnormality no doubt affected its ability to pick up and crush seeds. Therefore, before releasing the bird I cut off with a pair of scissors that portion of lower right mandible that extended above the lower edge of the upper mandible. I was uncertain about the effect of this "operation" on the Cardinal; however, I subsequently recaptured this same bird on February 26, 1983 and it appeared to be in excellent health.

— Gary Ritchison, Department of Biological Sciences, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky 40475

AMERICAN KESTREL PREYS ON PURPLE FINCH

On February 20, 1983 at about 2:00 p.m. I observed a female American Kestrel *(Falco sparverius)* perched near the top of a large walnut tree and a small flock of six or seven Purple Finches *(Carpodacus purpureus)* perched in a tree about 10 m from the walnut tree. As I walked toward these trees, the Kestrel flew up from her perch and, about 3 seconds later, the finches also flew up. By this time the Kestrel was about 6 m above the tree tops and the finches. As the finches flew below her the Kestrel swooped down and picked a finch out of the flock. She then flew about 100 m to another perch where the Purple Finch was plucked and eaten.

Previous investigations have revealed that American Kestrels prey mainly on invertebrates and small mammals, but they will also sometimes feed on birds. There has been, to my knowledge, no previous report of a Purple Finch being preyed upon by an American Kestrel.

— Gary Ritchison, Department of Biological Sciences, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, Kentucky 40475

NEWS AND VIEWS

EDITOR CHANGE ANNOUNCED

After ten years of service as Editor I am pleased to pass the task on to Dr. Blaine Ferrell, who has served as Assistant Editor for the past year. Dick is a conscientious, energetic ornithologist and will be an excellent editor. I am grateful to K.O.S. members for their support and to the Editorial Advisory Board, consisting of Mrs. F. W. Stamm and Dr. Burt L. Monroe, Jr., which serves as a review committee for manuscripts. I also acknowledge the patient assistance of Jacky Shadowen in proofreading and correcting my errors. Mr. Marvin Meany of General Printing Company has been most helpful and cooperative. I would have resigned long ago

without the continuous encouragement and assistance of Mrs. F. W. Stamm, the driving force behind the K.O.S. Articles for publication in *The Kentucky Warbler* should be typed double-spaced and mailed to Dr. Blaine Ferrell, Department of Biology, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green 42101.

WORKSHOP ON MANAGEMENT OF NONGAME SPECIES AND ECOLOGICAL COMMUNITIES

A workshop on management of nongame wildlife as species and as integral components of ecological communities will be held at the University of Kentucky on June 11-12, 1984. The workshop is sponsored by the Department of Forestry, University of Kentucky, in cooperation with the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission, TVA Land-Between-the-Lakes, the Daniel Boone National Forest, and the Kentucky Nature Conservancy. Subject areas to be included are: 1) inventory, including listing criteria and computerized retriveal systems; 2) management of nongame species, communities, and people; 3) monitoring methods to determine management effectiveness; and current and future research.

Individuals who wish to present a paper in one of the above areas should submit a 250-word abstract by 15 October 1983 to: Dr. William C. McComb, Department of Forestry, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Ky. 40546-0073. Notification of acceptance will be made by 15 January 1984. A published proceedings of all accepted papers will follow the workshop.

FALL K.O.S. MEETING

It is not too early to begin making plans and reservations for the Fall Meeting of the K.O.S. which will be held at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park September 23-25, 1983.

IN MEMORIAM

Dr. William M. Clay

Mr. Frank Heck

The Kentucky Warbler

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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Organ of the *Kentucky Ornithological Society*, Published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. The *KENTUCKY WARBLER* is sent to all members not in arrears for dues. Membership dues are: Active or Regular, $5.00; Contributing, $6.00; Student, $3.00; Life, $75.00; Family $1.00 in addition to Regular, Contributing, or Life Membership dues. All articles and communications should be addressed to the editor. Subscriptions, memberships, and requests for back issues should be sent to the treasurer.

Editor B. R. Ferrell, Biology Department, Western Kentucky Univ., Bowling Green 42101

Assistant Editor Herbert E. Shadowen, Bowling Green

Editorial Advisory Board

Anne L. (Mrs. F. W.) Stamm Burt L. Monroe, Jr.

OUR COVER

The gifted ability of our staff artist, Ray Harm, is once again displayed in his painting of the Bald Eagle.

flooding along the Mississippi River in western Kentucky and covered the normal shorebird habitats, but created excellent habitat in flooded fields along Chamberlain Lane in northwestern Jefferson County and in fields on Schuler Lane in western Oldham County. Two Semipalmated Plovers were first noted in Fulton County on April 19 (JEl) and a similar number appeared in Jefferson and Oldham counties on May 4, but numbers increased during the week, with 24-50 present May 6-8 (DN, BPB); two still present there on May 30 (S). American Golden Plovers were reported from only Fulton County: 40 on April 2 (KCa), 400+ on April 19 (JEl) and 30-40 on April 24 (DN, Dr. J. Noonan). A single Black-bellied Plover was feeding with American Golden Plovers on April 24 in Fulton County (DN); one to two in the Louisville area between May 15-22 (DN, BPB) and one still present on May 28 and 29 (S, FS). Common Snipe were scarce in Danville and Louisville (FL, S); 12 at BWMA on April 1 (KCa). The Upland Sandpiper, a rare transient, was present at three locations: eight at transient lakes, Bowling Green, (BPB) and one at Barren River on April 23 (BPB, KOS); 1-5 in Oldham County, April 29-May 4 (BPB, BM). Solitary Sandpipers were expected and present at Madisonville from April 30 to May 8 (JH), good numbers at Danville (FL), near Murray from May 7-15 (JEr) and at Hays Kennedy Park and Chamberlain and Schuler Lanes from April 29-May 11, with maximum numbers of 25 (S, BM, BPB). A flock of 24 Willets in a flooded field in Oldham County, May 1 was exceptional (BM) and observed later in the day by the Stamms and Palmer-Ball, Jr. The birds left that evening (BPB). A flock of 500 shorebirds, near the Shakertown area, May 4 was unexpected (RM). Various species were in the flock including Spotted, Solitary Sandpipers, Greater and Lesser Yellowlegs and some Pectoral Sandpipers. Greater Yellowlegs were fairly well represented throughout the state, with the earliest arrival at BWMA on April 1 (KCa) and last reported at Louisville, May 12 (S); highest concentration of 50+ in flooded fields in Fulton County, April 19 (JEl). Lesser Yellowlegs were well distributed, with high counts of 300+ at Ballard and Fulton counties, April 19 (JEl) and 100 to 150 at Chamberlain and Schuler Lanes, May 4 and 5 (BPB, DN, S, FS), with only one bird remaining there May 12 (S.) Pectoral Sandpipers were "common" on April 2 at the Kentucky end of Reelfoot National Wildlife Refuge (KCa); a peak of 65 reported at Chamberlain and Schuler Lanes, May 8 (BPB). Single White-rumped Sandpipers were present at Schuler Lane on May 4 (BPB), May 5 (S), May 7 in Calloway County (JC) and on Chamberlain Lane, Jefferson County, May 19 (DN with Dr. Noonan). Dunlin were reported from Oldham and Jefferson counties, with 4 and 8 birds, respectively between May 3 and May 19 (DN, S, BPB). A single Dowitcher species was reported on April 23 in Warren County (BPB). Three Short-billed Dowitchers were present from May 1 to May 4 on Schuler Lane (BM, BPB, S); one remained there to May 8 (BPB). Seven Long-billed Dowitchers were heard and seen in Oldham County, April 29 (BPB) and May 1 (S, FS, BPB); two at Danville, with flight calls noted on May 4 (FL). A single Stilt Sandpiper, rare in spring, was recorded in a flooded field along SR 94 in western Kentucky on April 24 (DN). Semipalmated Sandpipers peaked at 20 on May 19, Chamberlain Lane, Jefferson County (DN); 12 present there on May 28 and 29 (S). A Marbled Godwit, maybe more, but only one identified before the group flew away, May 2 in Oldham County (S, FS). An Avocet on April 28 in Daviess County was of special interest (M. Brown *fide* AP). Nine Wilson's Phalaropes were with a large flock of shorebirds in the Shakertown area, May 4 (RM).

boro area (*fide* AP). Single American Bitterns were encountered at Louisville, May 8 (J. Carusco *fide* DN) and May 11 (DN, BPB); and near Owensboro, May 7 (*fide* AP). A Wood Stork at the Minor Clark Fish Hatchery on April 30 was extraordinary (FB).

Waterfowl — The waterfowl migration was disappointing and large concentrations were not seen. Dabbling ducks were generally in low numbers and late in arriving. The diving ducks fared better, but in lower numbers than last spring. Little movement of the northward migration was observed; a flock of 25 Canada Geese were flying over Louisville on March 5 (WJ) and a few stragglers were last observed on April 8 at Danville (FL). As expected, a few species lingered into May. Blue-winged Teal were late and small numbers arrived at Louisville, March 26 (S, FS) and at Frankfort, March 27 (KCa), but were everywhere at BWMA on April 1 (KCa); 25 at East Bend, April 24 (LMc) and at Elk Creek, May 2 (JH). Eight Greater Scaup were present on the Ohio River at Louisville, March 12 (LR). Two small rafts of Scaup were reported: a flock of 100 Scaup spp. at the mouth of Obion Bayou Du Chien, April 2 (KCa) and 75 Lesser Scaup at Louisville, April 5 (BPB) and a female lingered until May 8 at Oldham County Park (BPB). The 47 Ruddy Ducks at Lake Pewee on April 12 were of interest (JH). Six Red-breasted Mergansers were fairly late stragglers at Hays Kennedy Park, May 14 (BPB) and May 16 (S, FS).

Raptors — There were no spring hawk flights. Thirty-one Turkey Vultures were present in Boone County, May 7 on an all-day count (LMc); a flock of 17 on May 30 at Long Run County Park (S, FS). A Mississippi Kite at Bernheim Forest over Lake Nevin on May 29 was noteworthy (WB). Sharp-shinned, Coopers, Red-tailed and Red-shouldered Hawks were reported in normal numbers. Broad-winged Hawks were reported in singles or pairs from April 16 to May 7 in Daviess, Boone, Barren, Kenton, Franklin and Rockcastle counties (m. ob.). Rough-legged Hawks were encountered on March 19 in the Danville area (FL) and as late as the last week of April (no date) in Logan County (JK). An immature Bald Eagle was seen in the Louisville area on March 12 (LR, KCl). A few Marsh Hawks were reported between March 29 and May 7. Ospreys were widespread; 26 sightings from 15 counties ranging from Ballard to Rockcastle, all of single birds, with the exception of 4 at BWMA and 2 at Pulaski Park (m. ob.).

Cranes through Coots — The northward movement of Sandhill Cranes was quite good in central Kentucky this spring with two flocks totaling 150 at Munfordville, March 4 (SK) and 100 plus over Jefferson County Forest on March 5 (AB); 17 at Prospect and 20 over Lyndon on March 6 (JK and R. Madison *fide* BPB, respectively); 90 over St. Matthews, March 7 (T. Vail *fide* BPB); 17 at Otter Creek, May 23 (DS) and 31 over St. Matthews, March 25 (JC). A Virginia Rail was brought to the Owensboro Museum for Identification in mid-May (*fide* AP). Single Soras were reported from 10 localities from BWMA to Somerset and Central Kentucky Wildlife Management Area (hereafter CKWMA); 3 were at Mayfair Road settling basins (m. ob.). A Common Gallinule was present May 8 (DN with J. Carusco) and May 11 (DN) in the marshy area in the settling basins at the Louisville Water Company. Three hundred and twenty-two American Coots were present at Lake Pewee on April 7 (JH).

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Shorebirds — The heavy rains and storms in early May caused much

Finches this year, but noticeable migratory movements were detected at Frankfort on March 12 (KCa) and at Valley Station and Louisville on March 17-19 (DS, S). House Finches continued to spread and were reported from London at the U.S. Forest Service Station (JEl) to Owensboro (RI), with 100+ as the largest concentration at Eubank on March 3 (JEl). American Goldfinches were very common in mid-April at Frankfort (KCa), Falls of the Rough (KCl), and Louisville (S). A flock of 25 Savannah Sparrows was noted on a gravel road in Valley Station, April 1 (DS). The birds were feeding with Dark-eyed Juncos and Song Sparrows. Vesper Sparrows were reported in normal numbers in Fulton County, April 2 (KCa) and in Jefferson County in early April (BPB). A Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco at Pulaski County Park on May 23 was a fairly late straggler (JEl). Tree Sparrows were unusually late the third week of May in Warren County (HS). Chipping Sparrows were reported in low numbers at Danville (FL) and at Louisville (S). The Lincoln's Sparrow was only mentioned at Danville and Louisville.

Correction — The arrival date for the Blue-winged Teal should have been March 14 instead of May 14 in the Spring Migration of 1982 (*Ky. Warbler*, 58:49, 1982).

Contributors — Alan Barrow (AB), W. H. Brown (WB), Fred Busroe (FB), John Callahan (JC), Keith Camburn (KCa), Kathryn Clay (KCl), George Elliott (GE), Jackie Elmore (JEl), Joe T. Erwin (JEr), Helen Fisher (HF), John Getgood (JG), Ed Groneman (EG), James W. Hancock (JH), Ramon Iles (RI), Wilbur Jackson (WJ), Steve Kistler (SK), Frederick Loetscher (FL), Lee McNeely (LMc), Michael Miller (MM), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (BM), Doxie Noonan (DN), Clell Peterson (CP), A. L. Powell (AP), B. Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BPB), Ann Ramsey (AR), Lene Rauth (LR), Gary Ritchison (GR), Mable Slack (MS), Herbert E. Shadowen (HS), Bernice Shannon (BS), Lawrence Smith (LS), Anne L. Stamm (S), F. W. Stamm (FS), Donald Summerfield (DS). Other abbreviations — Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Kentucky Ornithological Society (KOS), Ballard Waterfowl Management Area (BWMA), Many observers (m. ob.), Central Kentucky Wildlife Management Area (CKWMA).

— 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222.

KENTUCKY'S 1983 EAGLE CENSUS

Anne L. Stamm and James S. Durell

The 1983 Kentucky mid-winter eagle census was a big success. The national target date was January 8, with back-up dates scheduled as close to this date as possible for those who could not participate on the appointed date (January 2-16, was the acceptable period when counts could be used). Observers were actually expecting fewer eagles because of the mild winter, open water and the scarcity of waterfowl, with only moderate numbers in western Kentucky, where the largest concentrations are usually present. Strangely enough, a greater number of eagles was recorded in this census than in any previous winter. There was a total of 142 eagles: 83 adult and 46 immature Bald Eagles, with six of unknown age; three adult and three immature Golden Eagles and one not classified as to age.

numbers of Blackburnians were reported at Danville (FL), Louisville (BPB) and Burlington (LMc). Chestnut-sided Warblers were seen more frequently at Danville this spring (FL) and a flock at Fort Wright and the Covington border, May 22 (EG). Bay-breasted Warblers were found in good numbers at Burlington, Danville and Louisville. Black Poll Warblers brought more comments than usual: a very early one at Louisville on April 17 (DN); 18 in Hardin County, May 7 (JG); observed frequently from May 5-27 at Burlington (LMc); and good numbers at Louisville (MS, BPB). Pine Warblers were recorded in Hopkins County as early as March 5 (JH). Palm Warblers were unusually common at Danville (FL) and in Hopkins County (JH). A singing Ovenbird on May 30 in a wooded area along Buckeye Lane, Oldham County was of interest (S, FS). Northern Waterthrushes were reported only from western Kentucky: BWMA on April 1 (KCa), Hamlin on April 15 (JEr); and Clear Creek, Hopkins County, May 2-8 (JH). Single Connecticut Warblers were found at four localities: Hamlin, May 7 (JEr); Daviess County, May 7 (*fide* AP); Creason Park, May 17 (BM); and Surrey Hill Farm, Louisville, May 20 (BPB). It was a good year for Mourning Warblers, with records from May 14-22; singles were at Otter Creek Park (DN, JG, S, DS *et al.*), Munfordville (SK), Hamlin (JEr), and Creason Park (DN); at least 7 at Surrey Hill Farm (BPB). Yellow-breasted Chats were down in numbers at Hamlin (JEr), Daviess County (RI) and Louisville (S). The Hooded Warbler showed decreases at Danville and was recorded only once in the Madisonville area (FL, JH, respectively). The American Redstart was absent at Hamlin and at Murray (JEr, CP) and only recorded in Hopkins County from May 6-10 where it "no longer occurs as a breeding bird" (JH).

Blackbirds through Tanagers — A single male Bobolink was recorded in Allen County, April 23 (BPB); four males arrived in the Louisville area, April 30 (S, FS); flocks of 75 began appearing in Pulaski County on May 2 (JEl) and May 8 (JC, JEl); flocks of 25 and 50 appeared near Hamlin, May 4 (JEr) and several flocks of 50-75 in the Louisville area, during early May (no date — BPB). Late arrival dates for the Orchard Oriole were: Mt. Vernon, April 28 (AR), Madisonville, May 8 (JH) and at Hamlin on May 16 (JEr). Migration of the Northern (Baltimore) Oriole was noted on May 4 at Hamlin when a flock of 24-30 was feeding with Bobolinks in an alfalfa field (JEr). Five Brewer's Blackbirds were present near the transient lakes in Warren County, April 23 (BPB); 10 in Fulton County, April 24 and a small group near Kentucky Dam, April 26 (DN, with Dr. J. R. Noonan). Ten Scarlet Tanagers were seen at Cave Hill Cemetery, April 29 (DN); both Scarlet and Summer Tanagers were present in good numbers throughout May in Boone County (LMc).

Finches and Sparrows — Rose-breasted Grosbeaks arrived later than normal and were first observed at Hamlin on April 26 (JEr) and Madisonville on April 28 (JH). They were scarce at Louisville, but fair numbers at Lexington (RM). Blue Grosbeaks were widespread and reported from nine localities from April 13 at Madisonville (JH) to May 29 at Eubank (JEl). Dickcissel were scarce in Mercer and Scott counties (RM); present at Petersburg on May 7 (LMc); a "few" in Jefferson and Oldham counties (BPB); none at Danville (FL); none were found on an all-day count in Hardin County (JG) and only three on a similar count in Daviess County (*fide* AP). The flock of 15 to 20 Evening Grosbeaks at Murray on April 27 was exceptional (CP). There were no large concentrations of Purple

Finches this year, but noticeable migratory movements were detected at Frankfort on March 12 (KCa) and at Valley Station and Louisville on March 17-19 (DS, S). House Finches continued to spread and were reported from London at the U.S. Forest Service Station (JEl) to Owensboro (RI), with 100+ as the largest concentration at Eubank on March 3 (JEl). American Goldfinches were very common in mid-April at Frankfort (KCa), Falls of the Rough (KCl), and Louisville (S). A flock of 25 Savannah Sparrows was noted on a gravel road in Valley Station, April 1 (DS). The birds were feeding with Dark-eyed Juncos and Song Sparrows. Vesper Sparrows were reported in normal numbers in Fulton County, April 2 (KCa) and in Jefferson County in early April (BPB). A Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Junco at Pulaski County Park on May 23 was a fairly late straggler (JEl). Tree Sparrows were unusually late the third week of May in Warren County (HS). Chipping Sparrows were reported in low numbers at Danville (FL) and at Louisville (S). The Lincoln's Sparrow was only mentioned at Danville and Louisville.

Correction — The arrival date for the Blue-winged Teal should have been March 14 instead of May 14 in the Spring Migration of 1982 (*Ky. Warbler*, 58:49, 1982).

Contributors — Alan Barrow (AB), W. H. Brown (WB), Fred Busroe (FB), John Callahan (JC), Keith Camburn (KCa), Kathryn Clay (KCl), George Elliott (GE), Jackie Elmore (JEl), Joe T. Erwin (JEr), Helen Fisher (HF), John Getgood (JG), Ed Groneman (EG), James W. Hancock (JH), Ramon Iles (RI), Wilbur Jackson (WJ), Steve Kistler (SK), Frederick Loetscher (FL), Lee McNeely (LMc), Michael Miller (MM), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (BM), Doxie Noonan (DN), Clell Peterson (CP), A. L. Powell (AP), B. Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BPB), Ann Ramsey (AR), Lene Rauth (LR), Gary Ritchison (GR), Mable Slack (MS), Herbert E. Shadowen (HS), Bernice Shannon (BS), Lawrence Smith (LS), Anne L. Stamm (S), F. W. Stamm (FS), Donald Summerfield (DS). Other abbreviations — Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Kentucky Ornithological Society (KOS), Ballard Waterfowl Management Area (BWMA), Many observers (m. ob.), Central Kentucky Wildlife Management Area (CKWMA).

— 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222.

KENTUCKY'S 1983 EAGLE CENSUS

Anne L. Stamm and James S. Durell

The 1983 Kentucky mid-winter eagle census was a big success. The national target date was January 8, with back-up dates scheduled as close to this date as possible for those who could not participate on the appointed date (January 2-16, was the acceptable period when counts could be used). Observers were actually expecting fewer eagles because of the mild winter, open water and the scarcity of waterfowl, with only moderate numbers in western Kentucky, where the largest concentrations are usually present. Strangely enough, a greater number of eagles was recorded in this census than in any previous winter. There was a total of 142 eagles: 83 adult and 46 immature Bald Eagles, with six of unknown age; three adult and three immature Golden Eagles and one not classified as to age.

numbers of Blackburnians were reported at Danville (FL), Louisville (BPB) and Burlington (LMc). Chestnut-sided Warblers were seen more frequently at Danville this spring (FL) and a flock at Fort Wright and the Covington border, May 22 (EG). Bay-breasted Warblers were found in good numbers at Burlington, Danville and Louisville. Black Poll Warblers brought more comments than usual: a very early one at Louisville on April 17 (DN); 18 in Hardin County, May 7 (JG); observed frequently from May 5-27 at Burlington (LMc); and good numbers at Louisville (MS, BPB). Pine Warblers were recorded in Hopkins County as early as March 5 (JH). Palm Warblers were unusually common at Danville (FL) and in Hopkins County (JH). A singing Ovenbird on May 30 in a wooded area along Buckeye Lane, Oldham County was of interest (S, FS). Northern Waterthrushes were reported only from western Kentucky: BWMA on April 1 (KCa), Hamlin on April 15 (JEr); and Clear Creek, Hopkins County, May 2-8 (JH). Single Connecticut Warblers were found at four localities: Hamlin, May 7 (JEr); Daviess County, May 7 (*fide* AP); Creason Park, May 17 (BM); and Surrey Hill Farm, Louisville, May 20 (BPB). It was a good year for Mourning Warblers, with records from May 14-22; singles were at Otter Creek Park (DN, JG, S, DS *et al.*), Munfordville (SK), Hamlin (JEr), and Creason Park (DN); at least 7 at Surrey Hill Farm (BPB). Yellow-breasted Chats were down in numbers at Hamlin (JEr), Daviess County (RI) and Louisville (S). The Hooded Warbler showed decreases at Danville and was recorded only once in the Madisonville area (FL, JH, respectively). The American Redstart was absent at Hamlin and at Murray (JEr, CP) and only recorded in Hopkins County from May 6-10 where it "no longer occurs as a breeding bird" (JH).

Blackbirds through Tanagers — A single male Bobolink was recorded in Allen County, April 23 (BPB); four males arrived in the Louisville area, April 30 (S, FS); flocks of 75 began appearing in Pulaski County on May 2 (JEl) and May 8 (JC, JEl); flocks of 25 and 50 appeared near Hamlin, May 4 (JEr) and several flocks of 50-75 in the Louisville area, during early May (no date — BPB). Late arrival dates for the Orchard Oriole were: Mt. Vernon, April 28 (AR), Madisonville, May 8 (JH) and at Hamlin on May 16 (JEr). Migration of the Northern (Baltimore) Oriole was noted on May 4 at Hamlin when a flock of 24-30 was feeding with Bobolinks in an alfalfa field (JEr). Five Brewer's Blackbirds were present near the transient lakes in Warren County, April 23 (BPB); 10 in Fulton County, April 24 and a small group near Kentucky Dam, April 26 (DN, with Dr. J. R. Noonan). Ten Scarlet Tanagers were seen at Cave Hill Cemetery, April 29 (DN); both Scarlet and Summer Tanagers were present in good numbers throughout May in Boone County (LMc).

Finches and Sparrows — Rose-breasted Grosbeaks arrived later than normal and were first observed at Hamlin on April 26 (JEr) and Madisonville on April 28 (JH). They were scarce at Louisville, but fair numbers at Lexington (RM). Blue Grosbeaks were widespread and reported from nine localities from April 13 at Madisonville (JH) to May 29 at Eubank (JEl). Dickcissel were scarce in Mercer and Scott counties (RM); present at Petersburg on May 7 (LMc); a "few" in Jefferson and Oldham counties (BPB); none at Danville (FL); none were found on an all-day count in Hardin County (JG) and only three on a similar count in Daviess County (*fide* AP). The flock of 15 to 20 Evening Grosbeaks at Murray on April 7 was exceptional (CP). There were no large concentrations of Purple

Valley Authority, National and State Parks, Kentucky Ornithological Society, and a few interested individuals. The project was coordinated by James S. Durrell of the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife. A total of 102 persons participated.

The writers wish to acknowledge the assistance of several new participants and to thank all the observers and recorders for making this one of the best Kentucky eagle counts. It is regretted that due to lack of space the names of participants can not be listed.

— 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222 and Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, Frankfort 40601.

FIELD NOTES

HOUSE FINCH NESTS IN WARREN COUNTY

Beginning in early March 1983, I noticed a pair of House Finches *(Carpodacus mexicanus)* around my house in Bowling Green. On 22 April I saw the female enter a large hemlock *(Tsuga canadensis)* beside my house. There, in the hemlock, approximately seven feet above the ground I found a nest containing five eggs. The eggs were light blue and sparsely marked with short brown and black lines and spots. I checked the nest daily during times when the female was off the nest and found the eggs in place each time. However, on 29 April the House Finches were not observed and the eggs were missing. The birds were not seen thereafter.

To my knowledge, this is the first House Finch nest to be reported in Warren County.

— Allen R. Strickley, Jr., 1715 Karen Circle, Bowling Green, Kentucky 42101.

BOOK REVIEW

BIRD SPECIES ON MINED LAND, by Pierre N. Allaire. Institute for Mining and Minerals Research, University of Kentucky, Lexington, Kentucky 40512, 1980; pp. vii + 64.

This thorough study fills a need for information on the effect of mining on bird life in eastern Kentucky. The publication is the culmination of hundreds of hours of observation from 1974 to 1981. Readers will profit from the concise literature review, the information provided on the various mining techniques, and the extensive population studies. The review of the literature focuses upon three types of mining found in eastern Kentucky — area-wide mining, contour mining, and mountain top removal. Valuable information is provided on the avifauna of some of the counties in eastern Kentucky which are not well known ornithologically. The publication is beautifully illustrated with paintings by Alan Barron.

Some interesting ecology is discussed. The author makes the point that mining has resulted in cleared areas, particularly on the mountain tops, and this has produced an edge effect and resulted in greater species diversity. On page five he states: "The creation of this vertical rock wall

provided a limiting factor (nest site)." Perhaps it would be more appropriate to state that it reduced a limiting factor, the lack of nesting sites.

When one views the photographs of properly reclaimed mine areas in this publication and reads the lists of bird species present at different seasons of the year one might be lulled into thinking that all strip mining produces environmental bonuses. However, on thousands of acres in both eastern and western Kentucky this obviously is not the case. Dr. Allaire does produce evidence that mining — when followed by proper reclamation —can produce benefits in addition to coal. His management recommendations in Chapter five appear logical and relatively inexpensive to include in reclamation. The citizens of Kentucky will indeed be fortunate if mine operators read *Bird Species on Mined Lands* and put into practice the suggested recommendations.

— H. E. Shadowen, Dept. of Biology, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, 42101.

NEWS AND VIEWS

INFORMATION WANTED

ON TAGGED TURKEY VULTURES. Shela Gaby of Miami, Florida, has been banding Turkey Vultures with wing tags. One of her birds wearing two wing tags marked M 43 was recorded recently in Montgomery County, Kentucky, by conservation officer Terry Conn. She would like information on any sightings or nesting of these wing-tagged vultures. Report any findings to Shela Gaby at 6832 SW 68th Street, Miami, Florida 33143.

ON HERON, EGRET AND TERN NESTING COLONIES. Sherri Evans is currently gathering data on heron, egret, and tern nesting colonies in Kentucky. If you have field observations of any active colonies, please send them to Sherri Evans, Nongame Program, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, #1 Game Farm Rd., Frankfort, Kentucky 40601. Helpful information would include the date of observation, location with respect to count and nearest town, number of nests and number of individuals.

FALL K.O.S. MEETING

Our fall meeting will be held at Kentucky Dam Village State Resort Park 23-25 September 1983. Reservations at the lodge should be made at your earliest convenience (Phone: 502-362-4271). Camping sites are also available. You are encouraged to take this opportunity to renew acquaintances, share birding experiences and observe the fall migration at this excellent locality. Those interested in making a presentation at the Friday evening program should contact Blaine Ferrell, Department of Biology, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green 42101 (Phone: 502-745-3696).

The Kentucky Warbler

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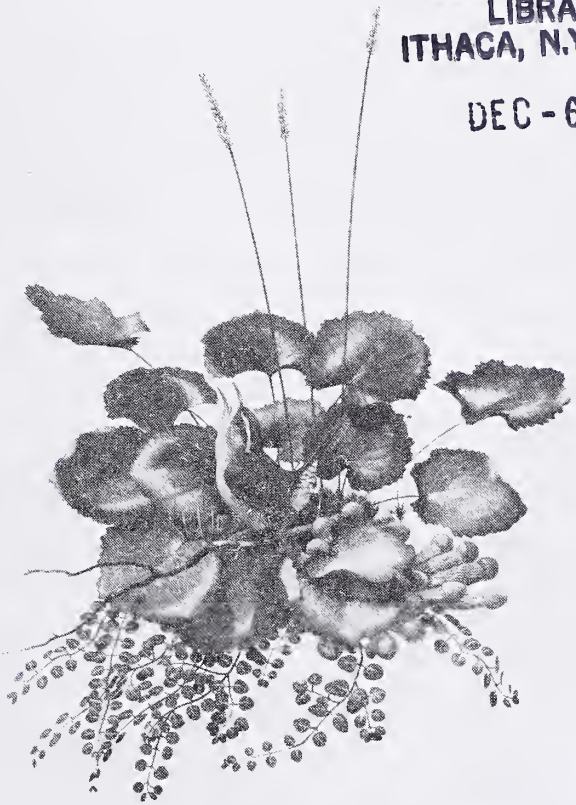

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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

Organ of the *Kentucky Ornithological Society*, Published quarterly in February, May, August, and November. The *KENTUCKY WARBLER* is sent to all members not in arrears for dues. Membership dues are: Active or Regular, $5.00; Contributing, $6.00; Student, $3.00; Life, $75.00; Family $1.00 in addition to Regular, Contributing, or Life Membership dues. All articles and communications should be addressed to the editor. Subscriptions, memberships, and requests for back issues should be sent to the treasurer.

Editor ..... B. R. Ferrell, Biology Department, Western Kentucky Univ., Bowling Green 42101

Assistant Editor ..... Herbert E. Shadowen, Bowling Green

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Anne L. (Mrs. F. W.) Stamm

Burt L. Monroe, Jr.

OUR COVER

We thank our gifted staff artist, Ray Harm, for this painting of the Carolina Wren.

THE NESTING SEASON, SUMMER 1983

Anne L. Stamm

Drought conditions affected much of the state during July, with ponds drying up by mid-month. It was the third driest July on record; less than an inch of rain was recorded in the Louisville area, the lowest amount since the 1930's. The temperature in June was just about average, however, July was unusually warm, with 23 days of 90 to 102 degrees. Some birders failed to go out in July because of the intense heat.

There were more reports on the breeding birds of the state than in some previous years. Many House Wrens occupied houses erected for Eastern Bluebirds in Warren County. The June breeding bird surveys in Carter, Greenup, Hardin, Hopkins, Christian, Henry and Larue Counties showed some interesting gains and losses in the birdlife from previous years. The Blue Grosbeak reached extreme northeastern Kentucky and the second nest for the House Finch was found in Warren County. Other comments on the occurrence of birds during June and July will be found listed below.

Loons through Bitterns — Most Common Loons had left by late May, but one was still present at Kentucky Lake on June 20 (BPB). Great Blue Herons were scattered in small numbers, but "several dozen" were in the bottomland of Union County on June 19 (BPB) and there were high counts of seven on July 23 at East Bend, Boone County (LMc) and six at the Falls of the Ohio on July 27 (LR). Green Herons were in low numbers at the Falls of the Ohio (S, LR) and in most of the state, with the exception of the Minor Clark Fish Hatchery area, where 65 adults and immatures were present on July 30 (FB). Two adult Little Blue Herons were at Lentz's Pond, Louisville, July 30 (JC) and four immatures at the Minor Clark Fish Hatchery July 25-30 (FB). One to three Great Egrets were reported from the Falls of the Ohio on numerous occasions during July (m. ob.), and seven was the high there on July 28 (JC); one along the Ohio near Petersburg on June 8 was of interest (LMc). Numbers of Black-crowned Night Herons were slightly higher at the Falls of the Ohio this season than in 1982, with counts of 135 to 175 on July 8, 9 and 26, with about 55% immatures (LR, BPB, S). Yellow-crowned Night Herons were reported from five locations and five nests were found in the small colony at Lexington (RM, MF). A Least Bittern was flushed in mid-June on the Falls of the Ohio by Max Medley (*fide* BPB).

Waterfowl — Several female Mallards with young were reported from Rowan County during June (FB), a female with nine young in Boone County (LMc) and one successful nesting in Jefferson County (MR). Wood Ducks had a good season in Boone and Rowan Counties (LMc, FB). A male Blue-winged Teal was seen in Todd County in June (CP).

Hawks — A flock of 33 Turkey Vultures was seen resting on a TV tower in eastern Jefferson County on July 19 (S, FS). A nest with two young Black Vultures was found in an abandoned farm house on June 11 in Henry County (WB). Hawks were scarce in the Owensboro area (RI). A few Cooper's Hawks were reported: a pair nested successfully and fledged two young at the Falls of the Rough (KCl). Red-tailed Hawks were about normal in number in most areas: two young banded in a nest in Madison County on May 18 (PM). Red-shoulder Hawks continued to be scarce; only two were recorded on ten surveys in Hopkins County (JH). Broad-winged Hawks were found in Kenton and Grayson Counties during

the period (EG, KCl). An immature Bald Eagle at Taylorsville Dam on Salt River on June 8 was unusual (Todd Brown *fide* WB).

Bobwhite through Shorebirds — There were mixed comments on the Bobwhite. On the Casey County Breeding Bird Survey (hereafter BBS) the species was "way down" (FL); "still below levels of 1977 and before and down slightly from last year" on both Radcliff and Hodgenville BBS's (LS): increased considerably in Hopkins County over 1982 (AS, JH). A Killdeer nest with four eggs was found in Fleming County on the Maxey Flats low-level radioactive waste site on March 25 (WB) and was the only report on breeding of this species. Killdeers frequently gather in flocks after nesting season and the count of 45 at the Hatchery in Rowan County July 30 was of interest (FB); the 20+ and 35 at Pulaski County Park and Goose Pond on June 20, may have included some breeding birds (JEl, JH, respectively). A Ruddy Turnstone was on schedule at the Falls of the Ohio, July 24, (JEl, BPB), however, the majority of the southbound shorebirds arrived a bit later than usual and the migration had not built up to very large numbers by the end of July. A Greater Yellowlegs made its appearance at the Falls of the Ohio on July 21 (LR), a Lesser on July 22 (LR, BPB) and eight of the latter at Minor Clark Fish Hatchery on July 30 (FB). Two Pectoral Sandpipers arrived at the Falls of the Ohio on July 20 (LR, BPB), 30 on July 24 (BPB) and 65 at the above Hatchery on July 30 (FB). Other species occurring at the Falls of the Ohio included a Baird's on July 29 (LR) and a Least Sandpiper on July 5 (GA) and only five later in the month (BPB); 22 present at the Minor Clark Fish Hatchery on July 30 (FB). A Short-billed Dowitcher was also reported on July 20 at the Falls of the Ohio (LR).

Gulls and Terns — A few Herring Gulls lingered at the Falls of the Ohio until June 19-21 (JEl, LR). A single Ring-billed Gull was last seen on the above location on June 3 (BPB), but a few fall migrants appeared there on July 25 (LR); four at Kentucky Lake on June 20 (BPB). A Forster's Tern was present at the Falls of the Ohio on July 20 (LR). The late spring migration may have delayed Caspian Terns in their northward movement since two were at the Falls of the Ohio on June 3 (BPB) and singles lingered until June 12 (LR) and 16 (JC); two were at Smithland Dam on June 20 (BPB); and three at the former location on July 5 tied the record of 1982 (GA, BPB): they were probably returning southward ahead of the cold front.

Doves through Hummingbirds — Mourning Doves had a good nesting season and were common everywhere. There were mixed reports on the breeding of the Yellow-billed Cuckoo: numbers down on the Casey County BBS (FL); reduced numbers in the Louisville area (S), Eubank and Somerset (JEl); but numbers jumped from two to 19 on the southern Hopkins and northern Christian Counties BBS (AS). A single pair of Black-billed Cuckoos was seen at Fort Wright on July 5 and may have been breeding birds (EG). Three nests of Great Horned Owls were found in Madison County, with three young fledged — one nest was unsuccessful (PM); call notes heard in Daviess County (RI) and in three Jefferson County locations (BPB, S). The call of the Chuck-will-widow at the beginning of the Casey County BBS was of special interest (FL). Common Nighthawks were scarce in St. Matthews, where formerly they had been numerous (S). Chimney Swifts showed drastic decreases in the past two years on the southern Hopkins and northern Christian County BBS (AS) and some decrease on the Pleasureville BBS in Shelby County (S); absent

at one former Louisville nesting site (S). Only three Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were recorded on ten bird surveys in different sections of Hopkins County during June (JH); low numbers in Owensboro (RI); but good numbers present at Falls of the Rough (KCl) and at Anchorage (EP).

Flycatchers through Wrens — Quite unusual was a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher in Livingston County, June 20 (BPB). A total of 19 Acadian Flycatchers was observed at Elk Creek in Hopkins County, July 6 (JH). A Willow Flycatcher was seen and heard near Petersburg on May 27 and still present on June 8 (LMc); one at Minor Clark Fish Hatchery on June 8, 15 and July 30 (FB). Four Least Flycatchers were heard singing on the summit of Big Black Mountain on June 26, but no nests were found (R. Cassell and BPB). A flock of 11 Tree Swallows was seen at Goose Pond, Hopkins County on June 20 and may have been breeding birds (JH); a pair on a tree snag in the lake at Long Run County Park (S, FS); young out of the nest being fed were noted along the Ohio River in Union County (BPB). Bank Swallows nested at Doe Run Lake in Kenton County (EG) and in two colonies, both in gravel pits, in western Boone County (LMc). Decreases were noted in Rough-winged Swallows in southern Hopkins County (AS) and smaller numbers nested in Henry County than in 1982 (S). Cliff Swallows nested later and numbers were greatly reduced in western Kentucky due to the high water in the lakes and rivers (CP); forty-seven nested successfully at the marina located near Gilbertsville (RF). Fewer Purple Martins nested in Seneca Park than in 1982 (S, FS). Twelve nests of the House Wren were recorded at Bowling Green (HS); recorded on the Casey County BBS for the first time (FL). Carolina Wrens showed increases in Hopkins County (AS, JH). A small colony of Sedge Wrens (Short-billed Marsh Wrens) was discovered six miles east of Hodgenville in Larue County on July 30 (BM).

Thrushes through Shrikes — An empty, double nest of the American Robin was found at Fort Wright on June 4 (EG). Robins were down from 88 in 1982 to 47 in 1983 on the Pleasureville BBS (S). The Wood Thrush was down in numbers in the Louisville area (S) and also on the Hodgenville BBS (LS). Eastern Bluebirds were much more noticeable than for sometime. Lawrence D. Smith reported "best numbers since 1973 and 1974" on the Hodgenville BBS and also on the Radcliff BBS, where the species was almost back to levels of 1975; good numbers and several successful nestings at Owensboro and Maceo (RI) and Bowling Green (HS). Cedar Waxwings were common in some areas and absent in others; only two birds on ten June field trips in Hopkins County (JH); individuals were seen on BBS routes in Henderson, Union, Webster, Johnson, Taylor and Pike Counties (BPB); present throughout the period at Burlington area (LMc) and nests found at Louisville (BPB). The Loggerhead Shrike was not seen for the past three years on the Daniel Boone BBS (southern Hopkins and northern Christian Counties) and may have disappeared from the route (AS).

Vireos through Warblers — Ten field trips in different areas of Hopkins County during June showed a total of 41 White-eyed Vireos and a total of 18 Red-eyed Vireos (JH); a gradual decrease noted for the latter species on the Daniel Boone BBS — only one this year as compared with 10 in 1969 (AS). Warbling Vireos were missing from some areas in the Louisville region where formerly they had nested (S); seven were recorded at Lake Pewee on June 7 (JH). A Swainson's Warbler was heard in Pennyrile State Park in June (AS) and one at Elk Creek in Hopkins

County on June 17 (JH). Worm-eating Warblers were present in at least two areas in Boone County throughout the period (LMc). Cerulean Warblers continued to remain scarce in Boone County (LMc). Ovenbirds were present during June at the Boone County Cliffs Preserve and were probably breeding there, as were Louisiana Water-thrushes and Kentucky Warblers (LMc). The latter species was well distributed in western and northern Hopkins County (JH). In some sections of the state, the Common Yellowthroat was doing very well: almost 100% increase on the BBS in southern Hopkins and northern Christian Counties (AS); one hundred ten recorded on a breeding distribution study in Hopkins County during June (JH): increase in numbers in Rowan, Carter and Greenup Counties (FB); but fewer on the Pleasureville BBS (S). Yellow-breasted Chats were doing much better than in 1982 in Hopkins County (AS, JH), "holding" on the Radcliff and Hodgenville BBS's (LS) and lower in the Louisville area (S).

Blackbirds through Sparrows — Two Bobolinks were present in Henry County on June 4 (FS), one was heard in northern Taylor County on June 5 (BPB) and a few were breeding in Oldham County (BBC). Eastern Meadowlarks were down 52% from 1982 on the Pleasureville BBS (S). The species seemed to be below normal levels in Jefferson County, too (S). Scarlet Tanagers were present in good numbers throughout the period in Boone County (LMc). The Blue Grosbeak continued its spread eastward and one was found in Greenup County on June 26 (FB). In central Kentucky, the Indigo Bunting showed a slight decline on both the Hodgenville and Radcliff BBS's (LS). The House Finch increased substantially in the Owensboro area (RI). The Grasshopper Sparrow was reported above average in number on the Hodgenville BBS (LS). Two Bachman's Sparrows were observed in eastern Calloway County on June 21 (BPB). Chipping Sparrows showed sharp decreases this summer in Greenup and Carter Counties (FB). The Field Sparrow continued to be low in numbers in many sections (S). The Song Sparrow was common at Elk Creek, Hopkins County, where it is usually a rare irregular summer resident (JH).

Correction — The date of the 17 Sandhill Cranes at Otter Creek should have been March 23 instead of May 23 as stated in the Spring Migration of 1983 (*Ky. Warbler*, 59: 40, 1983). Also, in the same paper, due to an oversight, the name of Virginia Rommel was omitted in the list of contributors, although her initials (VR) were used.

Contributors — Garrett Adams (GA), W. H. Brown (WB), Kathryn Clay (KCl), Jackie Elmore (JEl), Robert M. Fisher (RF), Michael Flynn (MF), Ed Groneman (EG), James W. Hancock (JH), Ramon Iles (RI), Frederick Loetscher (FL), Philip Mastrangelo (PM), Robert Morris (RM), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (BM), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BPB), Clell Peterson (CP), E. Porter (EP), Lene Rauth (LR), Michael Ryan (MR), Herbert Shadowen (HS), Lawrence D. Smith (LS), Allen R. Stickly (AS), F. W. Stamm (FS), Anne L. Stamm (S). Other abbreviations — Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Breeding Bird Survey (BBS).

Information on the Fall Migration (August, September, October and November) should reach the writer no later than December 7. These seasonal reports would not be possible without the continued cooperation of our members. Gratitude is extended to all participants. — 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY FALL MEETING — SEPT. 23-25, 1983

The Kentucky Ornithological Society held its 1983 Fall Meeting at Kentucky Dam Village State Park September 23-25.

The K.O.S. members were greeted by President Pierre Allaire at 7:30 p.m. The program consisted of a discussion of the birds of Minor Clark Fish Hatchery in Rowan County by Fred Busroe and an introduction to the Land Between the Lakes by Wildlife Biologist Wally Bryans. Field trips in the Land Between the Lakes were planned for Saturday with leaders Allaire, Ferrell, and Peterson. A social hour and refreshments followed the Friday evening program.

Clear beautiful weather greeted the K.O.S. members on Saturday as they moved out into the surrounding area for field trips. A total of 109 species of birds was recorded during the day. An interesting afternoon program on the Eastern Bluebird was presented by Marcus Cope, Wildlife Biologist.

The evening meeting began at 7:50 p.m. with President Allaire presiding. He introduced the speaker of the evening, Dr. Burt L. Monroe, Jr., K.O.S. member from Louisville, who gave an informative lecture on the 6th Edition of the A.O.U. Checklist. Dr. Monroe is Chairman of the A.O.U. Committee on Classification and Nomenclature. Many of the recently announced name changes appeared more logical after hearing the examples presented.

A short business meeting followed the program. It was announced that the Spring Meeting would be held at Berea College April 27-29. Mrs. Anne Stamm, Chairman of the Nominating Committee, gave the report of the Committee as follows: President: Pierre Allaire; Vice President: Fred Busroe; Recording Secretary: Mrs. Wendell Kingsolver; Cor. Sec.-Treasurer: Miss Harriet Korfhage; Councillors (1983-1985): Wayne Mason and Jim Durell. The slate was elected without opposition. Editor Blaine Ferrell announced that the printer had produced some faulty copies of the August issue of *The Kentucky Warbler* and that anyone receiving a faulty copy should inform the Cor. Sec.-Treasurer so that another copy could be mailed.

President Allaire called Mrs. Anne Stamm to the front and presented a plaque to her in recognition and appreciation of her many years of vigorous and distinguished service to the Kentucky Ornithological Society. This recognition was greeted with warm applause by the K.O.S. members. The meeting was then adjourned at 9:23 p.m.

On Sunday morning additional field trips were made by some of the members. A total of 109 bird species was reported.

Respectfully submitted,
H. E. Shadowen
Acting Recording Secretary

BIRDS REPORTED ON FIELD TRIPS AT THE FALL MEETING IN THE VICINITY OF KENTUCKY DAM VILLAGE STATE PARK

September 23-25, 1983

Common Loon, Pied-billed Grebe, Great Blue Heron, Green Heron, Little Blue Heron, Yellow-crowned Night Heron, Canada Goose, Snow Goose, Mallard, Black Duck, Gadwall, Green-winged Teal, Blue-winged Teal,

American Widgeon, Wood Duck, Turkey Vulture, Black Vulture, Red-tailed Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, Marsh Hawk, Osprey, American Kestrel, Bobwhite, Turkey, Semipalmated Plover, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Greater Yellowlegs, Lesser Yellowlegs, Pectoral Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Dunlin, Stilt Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Sanderling, Wilson's Phalarope, Herring Gull, Ring-billed Gull, Caspian Tern, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Yellow-billed Cuckoo, Black-billed Cuckoo, Barred Owl, Whip-poor-will, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Common Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Red-headed Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Eastern Phoebe, Least Flycather, Eastern Wood Pewee, Tree Swallow, Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, Common Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, Short-billed Marsh Wren, Mockingbird, Gray Catbird, Brown Thrasher, American Robin, Wood Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Eastern Bluebird, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Cedar Waxwing, Loggerhead Shrike, Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Black-and-white Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Golden-winged Warbler, Blue-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Black-throated Blue Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, Palm Warbler, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, American Redstart, House Sparrow, Eastern Meadowlark, Red-winged Blackbird, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, American Goldfinch, Rufous-sided Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Song Sparrow. — Total species: 112.

ATTENDANCE AT THE K.O.S. 1983 FALL MEETING AT KENTUCKY DAM VILLAGE STATE PARK

BLANDVILLE: Newton Belt

BOWLING GREEN: Dr. and Mrs. Blaine Ferrell, Mr. and Mrs. Lawrence Holmes, Mr. and Mrs. William Mathes, Dr. and Mrs. Herbert Shadowen

GILBERTSVILLE: Mr. and Mrs. E. J. Conrad

HAZARD: Dr. Donnie Spencer

JACKSON: Dr. and Mrs. Pierre Allaire

Lexington: Mr. and Mrs. James Williams

LOUISVILLE: Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Sue Henderson, John Krull, Dr. Burt Monroe, Jr., Barry Nichols, Doxie Noonan, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm

MOREHEAD: Dr. Fred Busroe

MURRAY: Dr. and Mrs. Hunter Hancock, Mike Miller, Dr. Clell Peterson, Paul Sturm

OWENSBORO: Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Iles, Mrs. Emogene Lashbrook, Mrs. Juanita Hatcher, Mr. and Mrs. Al Powell, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wilson

PADUCAH: Aline Arnold, Mrs. Damon Caddell, Mrs. Ethel Woolfenden

PERRY: Mr. and Mrs. Dennis Sandlin

STANLEY: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stevenson

DYERSBURG, TN.: Mr. and Mrs. Kenneth Leggett

KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Report of the Treasurer
For the Fiscal Year 1982-1983

GENERAL FUND

Cash Balance as of September 30, 1982		$ 556.05

Receipts

Membership Dues	$2,116.00	
Interest on Endowment C.D.	$ 169.32	
Other Interest Income	$ 473.92	
Meetings	$ 228.00	
Sales of Checklists, Patches, etc.	$ 49.45	$3,036.69
TOTAL		$3,592.74

Disbursements

Printing:	*Kentucky Warbler*, 4 issues	$1,865.03	
Mailings:	Envelopes for the *Kentucky Warbler*	$ 143.33	
	Postage and Bulk Mailing Permit	$ 173.00	
	Supplies — labels, envelopes, etc.	$ 23.26	
Meetings Expenses		$ 185.40	
Nature Conservancy Dues		$ 10.00	
Kentucky State Filing Fee		$ 2.00	
Banking Charges:	Service Fees	$ 16.03	
	Safe Deposit Box Rental	$ 18.00	
	Interest Transfer to Gordon Wilson Fund	$ 120.61	
	Transfer of Life Memberships to Endowment (2)	$ 150.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses		$ 46.57	$2,753.23
Cash Balance in First National Bank — September 23, 1983			$ 839.51

ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance in Savings Future Federal — September 30, 1982	$1,114.12
Accumulation of Interest on C.D. #13-14-660944	$ 169.32
Certificates of Deposit:	$3,500.00
Colonial Federal: 2 — $1,000.00 each	
Future Federal: 1 — $1,500.00 each	
ENDOWMENT FUND TOTAL	$4,783.44

Receipts

Interest on Savings (3 quarters)	$ 47.45	
Life Memberships (2)	$ 150.00	
Interest on Certificates	$ 353.31	$ 550.76
		$5,334.20

Disbursements

Transfer of Interest to General Fund	$ 522.63
	$4,811.57
Certificates of Deposit	$3,500.00
Balance in Savings Account at Future Federal — September 22, 1983	$1,311.57
TOTAL	$4,811.57

THE GORDON WILSON FUND FOR ORNITHOLOGY

Balance in Savings Account (Great Financial Federal — September 30, 1982)		$ 372.80
Certificates of Deposit — 2 at $1,000.00 each		$2,000.00
Accumulated Interest on C.D. #11-11-20014 as of September 30, 1982		$ 144.26
		$2,517.06

Receipts

Interest on Savings	$ 20.49	
Interest on Certificates	$ 249.78	$ 270.27
Fund Balance, September 23, 1983		$2,787.33

Certificates of Deposit (2 @ $1,000.00)	$2,000.00
Balance in Savings, September 23, 1983	$ 513.90
Accumulated Interest on C.D. #11-11-20014 September 23, 1983	$ 273.43
	$2,787.33

BALANCE SHEET
September 23, 1983

Assets

Cash-General Fund	$ 839.51
Endowment Fund	$4,811.57
Gordon Wilson Fund	$2,787.33
TOTAL	$8,438.41

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	$ 36.00
NET WORTH	$8,402.41

John Krull, Treasurer

FIELD NOTES

CEDAR WAXWINGS NESTING IN WARREN COUNTY

Information pertaining to the breeding status of Cedar Waxwings *(Bombycilla cedrorum)* in Kentucky is incomplete. Although the species is regarded as breeding locally east and north of the Purchase and Pennyrile (Mengel 1965: 372, The Birds of Kentucky, A.O.U. Monogr. 3; Barbour et al. 1973, Kentucky Birds: A Finding Guide), few documented nesting records exist west of the Cumberland Plateau and mountains. Nests have been recorded from southcentral Kentucky, however, breeding season observations in Warren and Edmonson Counties do exist (Mengel 1965: 372, The Birds of Kentucky, A.O.U. Monogr. 3; Wilson et al. 1962, Ky. Warbler 38: 3). It is the purpose of this field note to document the discovery of an active nest of this species in southcentral Kentucky.

On the morning of 25 June 1983, a nest of Cedar Waxwings was found on the Western Kentucky University campus, Bowling Green, near the corner of Chestnut and Fourteenth Streets across from the north wing of the Thompson Complex for Science. It was situated approximately 30 feet (9 meters) above the ground in a White Ash *(Fraxinus americana)* and was anchored in the fork of a horizontal branch approximately 10 feet (3 meters) out from the main trunk. The nest was somewhat bulky and loosely woven; string, twine, coarse grasses and small twigs comprised the majority of nesting materials. The cup was lined with plant down. On the day of its discovery, four oval, bluish-gray eggs finely peppered with small, dark brown spots were observed. The female was incubating at the time the nest was found.

In addition to this nesting record, we observed several Cedar Waxwings on 28 June 1983 in nearby Butler County. Although no nests were located, the behavior of the birds observed indicated possible nesting in the Cottonwoods *(Populus deltoides)* that lined the reclaimed strip mine pits owned by the Peabody Coal Company. We believe this to be the first report of this species during the breeding season in Butler County. — WAYNE M. MASON and BLAINE R. FERRELL, Department of Biology, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green.

SCISSOR-TAILED FLYCATCHER IN LIVINGSTON COUNTY

On 19 June 1983, I was in Livingston County conducting a Breeding Bird Survey for the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service when I came upon a most unexpected bird. I had just pulled up to the forty-eighth stop, which is approximately 1.5 miles west of Burna, Kentucky on SR-763, and gotten out of the car when I noticed a peculiar looking light-gray bird sitting about five feet above the ground on a barbed-wire fence. Through the binoculars, the bird's long, forked tail immediately identified it as a Scissor-tailed Flycatcher *(Muscivora forficata)*. In addition to the long tail, the bird had a slim, black bill; whitish belly; dark wings; light gray head, neck throat and back; a pinkish wash to the flanks and bright reddish wing linings. When flared in flight, the tail had light edges due to a pattern of white in the outer tail feathers.

After watching the bird for several minutes and taking a few photographs, I completed the last two stops of the survey and returned to find the bird still sallying from the fence for passing insects. It spent most of the next three-quarters of an hour working the periphery of a small

pasture before stair-stepping another fenceline to the north and disappearing over a small knoll.

Interestingly, the flycatcher was not accepted by the local avian fauna. It was chased several times by territorial Red-winged Blackbirds *(Agelaius phoeniceus)* and harassed for several minutes by a feisty Eastern Kingbird *(Tyrannus tyrannus)* which hovered over and repeatedly dove at the odd-looking visitor. These attacks evoked the characteristic "kek" note of the Scissor-tailed Flycatcher several times. Besides catching winged insects, the flycatcher also stooped to the vegetation and retrieved a ripe blackberry which it immediately swallowed.

This is the sixth record of the Scissor-tail Flycatcher in Kentucky and the first record documented by a photograph. The first five records are summarized as follows: 27 August 1924, a single bird at Versailles, Woodford Co. (Wilson Bull. 37:41), was regarded by Mengel as Hypothetical; 6 August 1967, two birds at Fort Knox, Hardin Co. (Ky. Warbler 52: 53) was regarded by Monroe, Jr. (Ky. Warbler 52: 53) as hypothetical; 2 May 1966, a single bird at Forks of the Elkhorn, Franklin Co. (Ky. Warbler 42: 30-31); spring 1963, a single bird 5 miles west of Owensboro (Ky. Warbler 42: 31); 4 June 1977, a single bird on the Ballard Co. Wildlife Management Areat (Burt L. Monroe, Jr., pers. comm.). — BRAINARD PALMER-BALL, JR., 8207 Old Westport Rd., Louisville.

NEWS AND VIEWS

K.O.S. MEMBERS IN THE NEWS

BRUCE POUNDSTONE of Lexington, Kentucky has received the "Volunteer of the Year" award from the Kentucky Nature Conservancy at its annual meeting. Bruce is a charter member of the Kentucky chapter of the Nature Conservancy and served as chairman from 1975 to 1977.

DR. RUSSELL AND MRS. FAYE STARR of Glasgow, Kentucky have donated their 95-acre wildlife refuge, *Brigadoon*, to the Nature Conservancy. The 140 year old mixed hardwood forest on Barren River Reservoir will be managed by Western Kentucky University for wildlife research purposes through Dr. Herbert Shadowen and Mr. Wayne Mason, members of K.O.S.

1983 MIDWINTER BIRD COUNT

Forms for the Midwinter Bird Count will be mailed out in November. If you desire to participate as a compiler and have not received the forms by December 1, please contact the Editor. All birds recorded must be within a 15-mile diameter circle. Extraordinary sightings should be accompanied with a verification form which will be provided to each compiler. compiler.

MOVING?

If you are moving or changing address, please notify the Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer in order that the mailing of the Kentucky Warbler may be carried out expeditiously. Thank you.

The Kentucky Warbler

(Published by the Kentucky Ornithological Society)

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THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Founded in 1923 by B. C. Bacon, L. Otley Pindar, and Gordon Wilson

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THE KENTUCKY WARBLER

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Editor ..... B. R. Ferrell, Biology Department, Western Kentucky Univ., Bowling Green 42101

Assistant Editor ..... Herbert E. Shadowen, Bowling Green

Editorial Advisory Board

Anne L. (Mrs. F. W.) Stamm Burt L. Monroe, Jr.

OUR COVER

We thank our gifted staff artist, Ray Harm, for this painting of the Ruffed Grouse.

MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT
1983-1984

Results of 24 counts reported from across the state are included herein. Because of space limitations, species represented by a single bird observed only on one count are not included on the table. These include American Woodcock, Least Sandpiper, Bewick's Wren, N. Saw-whet Owl, Lincoln's Sparrow, Northern Goshawk, and Greater Scaup. In addition, results of the Pine Mountain census were received too late to be included on the table. Species are listed on the table in accordance with their order on the new A.O.U. checklist. A total of 116 species was recorded. An additional four species observed during the count period but not on count days brought the tally to 120 species. Fourteen species were recorded on all counts and 11 species were recorded only on one count. The surge of extremely cold air from the north experienced during the count period might account for the good numbers of Evening Grosbeaks. However, snow cover and frozen water attendant with the cold affected the distribution of waterfowl. Unusual (undocumented) sightings include Tundra Swans, a Least Sandpiper and Harris' Sparrows. Common Ravens were a nice addition from the Pine Mountain census. Although not included in the count numbers because of circumstances involved in their sightings, a Monk Parakeet and a Rufous Hummingbird were reported.

It is difficult to assess changes in bird populations statistically from this type of census because count areas, length of time spent on count day and observers change from year to year. Despite these limitations, certain trends were apparent. The Eastern Bluebird continued to increase in number, with 972 reported this year compared with 827 last year. The House Finch also continued to increase in numbers and was reported from Otter Creek area and Bell County for the first time. But alas, House Sparrow numbers also continued to grow. Brown Creepers, Winter Wrens, Golden-crowned and Ruby-crowned Kinglets remained low in numbers, whereas, Pine Siskins rebounded in number from eight last year to 80 this year. Meaningful comments regarding the numbers of roost species are not possible because of changes made in certain count areas with roost populations.

Thanks are sincerely extended to all participants, particularly those who commented on their areas and observations. In order to maintain the quality of future Mid-Winter Bird Counts, it is imperative that verification forms be filled out on all unusual sightings.

BALLARD COUNTY (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, center junction of Stove Corner Road and SR-358, to include the Ballard Wildlife Management Area and the West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area, approximately 10 miles of the Ohio River and Barlow). Habitat: open fields and farmland 30%, deciduous 15%, brushy edge 15%, lakes and swamps 8%, river 2%. Dec. 20; 6:15 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky overcast; light snow in p.m., temp. 16 to 25°F; wind E-SE, 5-20 m.p.h., water mostly frozen; snow cover 0-2 inches. Five observers in two parties. Total party-hours 19.5 (13 on foot, 6.5 by car). Total party-miles 56 (7 on foot, 49 by car) plus 1.5 hours owling. Total species 71; total individuals 73,033.

Harsh cold during the week prior to the count froze most water bodies, thus reducing the waterfowl count. Highlights of the count included an immature Golden Eagle and the large number of Red-headed Woodpeckers in the bottomland woods. The Snow Geese were observed in a single large

flock that included approximately 4,150 "Blue" and 850 "Snow" Geese. — Garrett Adams, Barry Nichols, Doxie Noonan, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Lene Rauth.

LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES (all points within a 15-mile diameter circle, new center Pisgah Bay Picnic Ground). Habitat: lake and stream shores 35%, deciduous and pine woods 30%, overgrown and cultivated fields 20%, homes and small businesses 15%. Dec. 17; 5:45 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 17 to 35°F; wind 0-3 m.p.h. Sixteen observers in five parties. Total party-hours 37 (20.5 on foot, 16.5 by car). Total party-miles 409 (29 on foot, 380 by car). Total species 87; total individuals 6,741.

The center of the count was relocated to bring the area into better compliance with the rules for determining count areas; also for the first time a party spent the entire day outside the boundaries of the LBL. Almost to the count day, the weather was mild and Least Sandpipers, Dunlin, and Common Snipe were common through the first week of December. The first considerable number of Gulls at Kentucky and Barkley Dams came in the week of Nov. 27; on Nov. 30, 60+ Bonaparte's Gulls were found at the two dams, but by Dec. 3 almost all had moved elsewhere. By count day observers had difficulty finding a single Bonaparte's Gull in the count area although large numbers could be found upstream (30+ north of Eggner Ferry Bridge on count day). The small number of Starlings reported was the count in the field; no estimate of the roost at Kentucky Dam was made this year. Evening Grosbeaks were reported by two parties. On the day after the count, Wally Brines reported 17 Evening Grosbeaks in a single flock in the LBL. Birds observed on the count day that were unique to this census area were one American Woodcock and one Least Sandpiper. They are not represented on the census table. — James Boren, Wally Brines, Dotty Curtsinger, Roger Eberhardt, Joe Tom Erwin, Doug Gegen, Bob Head, Carl Mowery, Jr., Carl Mowery, III, Clell Peterson (compiler), Lawrence and LouAnn Philpott, Ed Ray, Peggy Reynolds, Bill Sledd, Steve White.

MARION (center Forest Grove). Habitat as described in 1983. Jan. 2; 6:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear to cloudy; temp. 25 to 40°F; wind W, 0-5 m.p.h. The ground was covered with snow and ice. Three observers in two parties. Total party-hours 26 (6 on foot, 20 by car). Total species 38; total individuals 1,304. Seven Harris' Sparrows observed during the count period and a Bewick's Wren observed on the day of the count were unique to this census area. Twenty-eight Canada Geese were observed during the count period. — C.L. Frazer (compiler), Jim Frazer, Marie Frazer.

SORGHO (center Ky. 279 and Audubon Parkway). Habitat as described in 1982. Dec. 31; 8:00 a.m. to 4:10 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 8 to 29°F; wind 0-5 m.p.h. Nine observers in four parties. Total party-hours 25 (19 on foot, 6 by car). Total party-miles 89 (20 on foot, 69 by car). Total species 48; total individuals 3,810. — Joey Brown, Mike Brown, Joe Ford, Ray Iles, A. L. Powell, Philippe Roca, Tom Stevenson, Elinor Wilson, L. E. Wilson (compiler).

YELVINGTON (center junction of U.S. Hwy. 60 and Ky. Hwy. 405 at Maceo). Habitat as described in 1982. Dec. 17; 8:00 a.m. to 3:30 p.m. Sky cloudy to clear; temp. 22 to 28°F; wind 3-5 m.p.h. Nine observers in four parties. Total party-hours 25 (16 on foot, 9 by car). Total party-miles 30 (8 on foot, 22 by car). Total species 52; total individuals 1,726.

As in the past few years, the waterfowl count was down. There was seldom any significant numbers of ducks, geese, etc. on Carpenter's Lake

or the Ohio River. Although members of the count party were not present, Mr. Don Lacy of Owensboro reported observing a Monk Parakeet at his feeder on the count day. He and his son studied the bird carefully at close range with binoculars and checked each point of identification with Peterson's field guide. Mrs. Maudie Ray reported a substantial number of birds from their feeder. — Joey Brown, Mike Brown, Ray Iles, Bill Perkins, A. L. Powell (compiler), Millie Powell, George Ray, Marvin Ray, Maudie Ray.

MADISONVILLE (center Madisonville, including J. W. Hancock farm, Brown Road, Elk Creek, Hwy. 892, and three lakes at Madisonville). Habitat as described in 1983. Jan. 2; 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky overcast in a.m. to clearing in p.m.; temp. 36 to 41°F; wind WSW, 5-12 m.p.h. Four observers in two parties. Total party-hours 16 (12 on foot, 4 by car). Total party-miles 108 (12 on foot, 96 by car). Total species 44; total individuals 1,005. Due to illness, J. W. Hancock observed birds at his home feeders for five hours. — James W. Hancock (compiler), Allen Motgan, Mary Travis, Nathaniel Travis.

HOPKINSVILLE (center intersection of SR-68, SR-41 and SR-107). Habitat as described in 1983. Dec. 31; 6:45 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Sky mostly clear; temp. 2 to 33°F; wind E, 0-5 m.p.h. The ground was covered with 0-2 inches of snow and freshwater bodies were partially open. Eight observers in three parties. Total party-hours 25 (6.5 on foot, 18.5 by car) plus 8 hours at feeders. Total party-miles 206.5 (5.5 on foot, 201 by car). Total species 47; total individuals 3,991. — Cindy and George Beringer, Len Hale, Freddie Higgins (compiler), Kathy Higgins, Helen Marshall, Maggie and Roger Selvidge (Little River Audubon Society).

BOWLING GREEN (center and habitat as described in 1980). Dec. 17; 6:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Dry clear; temp. 19 to 34°F; wind NW, 0-5 m.p.h. Standing water was mostly frozen. Nine observers in two parties. Total party-hours 19 (15 on foot, 4 by car). Total party-miles 102 (9 on foot, 93 by car). Total species 60; total individuals 2,185. — Blaine Ferrell, Larry and Kathy Holmes, Valarie Kinder, Wayne Mason, Bill and Ruth Mathes, Sim Pickard, H. E. Shadowen (compiler).

MAMMOTH CAVE NATIONAL PARK (center and habitat as described in 1980). Jan. 2; 7:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. Sky overcast in a.m. to clearing in p.m.; temp. 35 to 45°F; wind SW, 0-5 m.p.h. Portions of First Creek and the Green River remained free of ice. Four observers in two parties. Total party-hours 17 (12 on foot, 5 by car). Total party-miles 62.5 (6.5 on foot, 56 by car). Total species 38; total individuals 838. — Blaine Ferrell (compiler), Marquita Gillenwater, Larry Holmes, H. E. Shadowen.

GLASGOW (center Barren County Courthouse). Habitat as described previously. Dec. 31; 6:30 a.m. to 4:45 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 5 to 40°F; wind NNW 0-5 m.p.h. Seven observers in five parties. Total party-hours 27.5 (19.5 on foot, 8 by car). Total party-miles 142.7 (15 on foot, 127.7 by car). Total species 66; total individuals 2,978. Below normal temperatures resulted in greater than 90% ice covering on lakes and ponds. Thus, waterfowl were restricted to the larger streams and Barren River. Some waterfowl were concentrated in the patches of open water at the dam. House Finches continue to increase in this region, but sparrow numbers continue to decline as prime habitat is cleared for housing developments. — Marquita Gillenwater, Mr. and Mrs. Howard M. Jones, Wayne Mason (compiler), Todd and Billie Moore, Dr. Russell R. Starr.

MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT 1983-1984

	BALLARD COUNTY	LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES	MARION	SORGHO	YELVINGTON	MADISONVILLE	HOPKINSVILLE	BOWLING GREEN	MAMMOTH CAVE N. PK.	GLASGOW	OTTER CREEK	BERNHEIM FOREST	LOUISVILLE	SHELBYVILLE	FRANKFORT	KLEBER	LEXINGTON	DANVILLE	BURLINGTON	SOMERSET	PERRY COUNTY	CUMBERLAND GAP	FLOYD COUNTY
PIED-BILLED GREBE	3	17				4		4	1	2	4		6	*	2	2	4			3			*
HORNED GREBE		3											2				3			*			
DOUBLE-CR. CORM.													2							*			
GREAT BLUE HERON	23	3					5	1	1	10			18	*	7		10	7		*			
TUNDRA SWAN																	25						
SNOW GOOSE	5000													1									
CANADA GOOSE	50000	478	*		*	23	19	9		87	36	15	111	5	74		83	87	114				
WOOD DUCK		1					*				1		1										
GREEN-W. TEAL													1				28	1					
AM. BLACK DUCK	60	126							11	22	22		303	*	23		12	28	3	*			
MALLARD	577	343			23	40	12	108	2	59	166	35	713	32	158		526	406	9	45		2	4
NORTHERN PINTAIL								5			5		4					1					
N. SHOVELER	3										2		3										
GADWALL	2	4									6		19				252	19					
AMERICAN WIDGEON		20						2			5		24		2		27						
CANVASBACK	1	1									6		8							*			
REDHEAD		1											6				10						
RING-NECKED DUCK						20							38				4			*			
LESSER SCAUP		2						5			12		5				13						
COMMON GOLDENEYE		19								9	3		2				3		5				
BUFFLEHEAD		10				1						4								2			
HOODED MERGANSER		84								10			1				7			*			
COMMON MERGANSER		28											*										

RED-BR. MERGANSER		2											1												
RUDDY DUCK		2				10					3	3	8				9	1							
BLACK VULTURE										1		46	57	31	4		36	2							
TURKEY VULTURE		2					3	2		1		8	289	5			30	5		*	1				
BALD EAGLE	15	10									2	1													
N. HARRIER	3	3		2	1			1		3		2	2	*			1								
SHARP-SHINNED HAWK ..		1	1					1		1	1		5		1		2		2	2	1				
COOPER'S HAWK		3	*		*			1		3	1	1	6		1	1	1			1		1	*		
RED-SHOULDERED HAWK	9	3			4							3	4								*	4			
RED-TAILED HAWK	15	24	*	3	5	3	22	8	1	12	15	19	45	10	24	4	37	45	16	5	1	3	3		
ROUGH-LEGGED HAWK ..		1	2							1	1	8	4				2	3		1					
GOLDEN EAGLE	1	1																							
AMERICAN KESTREL	7	18	3	14	13	6	20	12	1	18	14	44	95	14	34	6	44	97	30	21	1	1	2		
RUFFED GROUSE																					1		*		
WILD TURKEY	16	11																							
NORTHERN BOBWHITE ..			11	4	6	26	28	*			20			14	3	12	4								
AMERICAN COOT		41				4		1			30		20				54	2		*					
SANDHILL CRANE											2														
KILLDEER	1	15		6	4	2	3	8		4	9	27	74	*	51	1	37	59		1	2	3			
COMMON SNIPE	5	2		3			*					3	8		4		2	5							
BONAPARTE'S GULL		1											6												
RING-BILLED GULL	5	1925		1						150			53	*			7		4	*	2				
HERRING GULL		150		1						79			4						1	*					
ROCK DOVE	1	630	40	7	25	52	70	142		41	15	66	1565	17	146	14	192	246	52	16	40	6			
MOURNING DOVE	28	47	48	33	37	52	127	318		105	66	199	692	3	329	49	259	538	119	120	10	6	3		
E. SCREECH OWL	2	1						*				5	2	*	*		5	1	*		2		1		
GREAT HORNED OWL	4	4	2		1			1		1			7		2		3	2	1	*					
BARRED OWL	2	2	1	1	1					2		1	1								*		*		
BELTED KINGFISHER	2	11			1		1	1		4	5	2	17	*	15	1	20	9	3	3	2	1	2		
RED-H. WOODPECKER	231	65	1	27		*	6			1		1	1				1	2	1				*		
RED-B. WOODPECKER	40	48	10	18	40	10	30	15	10	38	24	25	53	7	37	6	32	48	17	4		1			
YELLOW-B. SAPSUCKER ..	9	5	1	3	3		2	4	5	2	2	4	8		*		4	1		2		1	1		
DOWNY WOODPECKER	31	32	12	22	25	14	12	33	19	23	26	33	107	13	57	11	82	52	16	11	2	7	2		
HAIRY WOODPECKER	11	3	8	1	2	2		3	3	4	9	6	11	*	9	3	13	9	1		1		1		

MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT 1983-1984

	BALLARD COUNTY	LAND BETWEEN THE LAKES	MARION	SORGHO	YELVINGTON	MADISONVILLE	HOPKINSVILLE	BOWLING GREEN	MAMMOTH CAVE N. PK.	GLASGOW	OTTER CREEK	BERNHEIM FOREST	LOUISVILLE	SHELBYVILLE	FRANKFORT	KLEBER	LEXINGTON	DANVILLE	BURLINGTON	SOMERSET	PERRY COUNTY	CUMBERLAND GAP	FLOYD COUNTY
NORTHERN FLICKER	34	26	1	18	14	8	17	14	7	18	37	15	44	1	23	3	15	24	4	1	1	2	*
PILEATED WOODPECKER	6	19		2	4			6	13	11	6	19	12	2	12	3	4	4	1	3	3	*	9
E. PHOEBE		2			1			1										*			1	1	5
HORNED LARK	33			118	6		147	52		11	27	59	70	131		4							
BLUE JAY	67	141	32	68	38	33	31	26	5	72	62	108	155	27	103	26	56	58	50	13	20	17	6
AMERICAN CROW	4	45	19	223	29	20	60	106	31	268	154	629	367	23	316	27	3367	162	130	88	25	20	28
CAROLINA CHICKADEE	76	125	12	40	40	19	29	36	65	40	147	144	322	14	193	7	194	86	50	42	20	9	9
TUFTED TITMOUSE	53	126	2	53	40	18	37	30	57	42	73	117	105	7	103	8	154	63	28	11	10	23	3
RED-BR. NUTHATCH		6						1	3	1	38	86	6		2			4	1	4	2	2	
WHITE-BR. NUTHATCH	15	47	3	12	12	1	13	4	28	19	32	39	44	3	2	4	10	15	21	5	3	9	2
BROWN CREEPER	7			*	2			2	12	2	7	2	12		8		10			3	2	5	
CAROLINA WREN	16	29	2	2	22	5	5	14	2	33	24	38	90	*	49	1	86	22	6	12	5	9	3
WINTER WREN					1				1	2	1	2	8		3	2	3			3	1		
GOLDEN-CR. KINGLET	8	9			1				104	7	29	28	33		7	1	22	1		18	25		
RUBY-CR. KINGLET	1	13									3						2					1	
EASTERN BLUEBIRD	5	49		13	20	2	16	13	13	15	80	151	27	9	178	8	144	187	21	6	2	3	16
HERMIT THRUSH	3	4							1	1	16	9					3			5	3	1	
AMERICAN ROBIN	3	115	2	2	*	5	20	103	150	53	61	31	735	*	45	3	101	1	1		20	11	3
GRAY CATBIRD																		4					
N. MOCKINGBIRD	26	12	28	20	32	14	35	26	1	28	23	33	99	8	39	1	92	79	2	15		5	
BROWN THRASHER	1	4	1	1	2	2				2		1	4				9	1			2	2	
WATER PIPIT							2	10				35	2							2			
CEDAR WAXWING	65	18		20	25		107	34	1	6	126	455	109	5	59		7	71	10	38			

LOGGERHEAD SHRIKE	5	1	*	1	4		10	1			2	2	1	1	3		6	3						
EUR. STARLING	173	530	87	1196	200	237	1395	250	46	646	207	672	6507	330	560	226	8381	1038	235	50460	50	263	21	
Y.-RUMPED WARBLER	54	33		8		2		24	15	12	92	69	17	1	13	2	19	5		12	*	11		
PINE WARBLER												5			*									
NORTHERN CARDINAL	153	167	90	169	206	74	180	122	17	180	147	308	726	74	286	18	344	342	138	64	20	39	14	
RUFOUS-S. TOWHEE	14	17	3	8	12	15	15	14	7	24	30	12	32	*	2		9	2		5	*	5	*	
AM. TREE SPARROW	7	1	20	42	7	1						2	36				3							
FIELD SPARROW	14	23	4	50	9	6	61	4	1	84	23	36	74	1	21		45	57	3	50	4	2	12	
VESPER SPARROW							8																	
SAVANNAH SPARROW	3	3	20				9				2	1	4	1				2						
FOX SPARROW	2	1	2		3		1	4			4	3	*		3		1	1			1			
SONG SPARROW	73	32	1	93	31	3	45	34		46	82	133	421	26	123	25	115	29	28	27	3	45	9	
SWAMP SPARROW	74	14		33	13			5		9	5	8	19	2	2		29			2		4		
WHITE-THR. SPARROW ..	202	61	70	61	55	30	37	106	21	112	59	93	584	5	79	1	178	47	17	25	6	26	3	
WHITE-CR. SPARROW	18		100	10	45	1	50	8		9	26	51	52	7	47		52	34	10	19				
DARK-EYED JUNCO	222	450	175	43	145	15	119	102	81	93	286	736	447	28	498	79	377	184	144	152	15	12	35	
LAPLAND LONGSPUR											1		1											
SNOW BUNTING														18										
RED-WINGED BLACKBIRD	5000	66			20		103			24	2	100	693		24		1	30	1	3000				
E. MEADOWLARK	30	19	24	47	29	22	201	46		7	4	51	38	10	31	1	52	106	1	16		15		
RUSTY BLACKBIRD	15			31	200	3				*	1	11	9685				501			1000				
COMMON GRACKLE	7500	15	*	335	*	19	73	80		38	2		33044	4	28		2751	79	1	150000		69	3	
BR.-HEADED COWBIRD ..	306		6	213	*	29	2	2		2		28	6402	1	20		760	2		3000				
PURPLE FINCH	2	9			1	*	4	17	53	41	58	93	31	1	94	17	77	*	12	25		11		
HOUSE FINCH								21		64	7		10		8		129	75		72		4		
PINE SISKIN		14			10			12	2	2	1	10	2	*	15		6					6		
AM. GOLDFINCH	14	54	*	34	106	22	51	108	15	70	63	124	203	21	185	6	303	94	55	39		26		
EVENING GROSBEAK	12	10			*	12			32	*	1	36	7						11	3		*		
HOUSE SPARROW	110	178	450	698	250	118	695	62		195	148	587	820	166	282	36	536	503	153	36	30	8	5	
DAY OF COUNT	D20	D17	J2	D31	D17	J2	D31	D17	J2	D31	D17	D26	D18	D31	D18	D31	D17	D17	D31	D31	D20	J1	D26	
NUMBER OF SPECIES	71	87	38	48	52	44	47	60	38	66	73	69	94	41	58	36	80	61	45	52	38	44	27	
INDIVIDUALS	73033	6749	1304	3900	1826	1005	3991	2185	838	2978	2713	5733	66513	1079	4449	619	20838	5091	1529	208513	340	703	205	
OBSERVERS	5	16	3	9	9	4	7	9	4	7	9	13	33	7	19	2	36	27	10	3	2	5	7	

* Indicates the species was recorded but not on the count day.

OTTER CREEK PARK (center and habitat as described in 1972). Dec. 17; 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 17 to 31°F; wind NW, 2-12 m.p.h. Ponds were frozen, but Otter Creek and the Ohio River were open. Nine observers in five parties. Total party-hours 35 (18 on foot, 17 by car). Total party-miles 123 (13 on foot, 110 by car). Total species 73; total individuals 2,713.

This was the third highest Christmas Bird Census for the Otter Creek Area. Waterfowl count was unusually good, particularly at Doe Lake. Hawks were fairly well represented with a mature and immature Bald Eagle putting on an aerial display. The Sandhill Cranes and House Finches were new for Otter Creek census records. The former species was observed by Richard Cassell and Doxie Noonan and the House Finches by John Getgood. — Richard Cassell, John Getgood, John Krull, Barry Nichols, Doxie Noonan, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Helga Schutte, Anne L. Stamm (compiler), Frederick W. Stamm.

BERNHEIM FOREST (center and habitat as described in 1974). Dec. 26; 7:15 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky mostly cloudy; temp. 5 to 20°F; wind W-SW, 0-20 m.p.h. Water bodies mostly frozen over. Thirteen observers in five parties. Total party-hours 39.75 (20 on foot, 19.75 by car). Total party-miles 262 (10 on foot, 252 by car), plus 0.5 hours owling. Total species 69; total individuals 5,733.

Highlights of the count included the adult Bald Eagle seen by Larry Smith and Marian Jones soaring over wooded countryside southeast of the forest and the flock of Water Pipits spotted by the Palmer-Ball party. Other firsts for this count were the Savannah Sparrow, Bufflehead and Ruddy Duck. New count highs were recorded for the Turkey and Black Vultures, Rough-legged Hawk, Hermit Thrush, Red-breasted Nuthatch, Pine Warbler, Brown-headed Cowbird, Evening Grosbeak, and White-crowned Sparrow. — Jane Bell, Pat Bell, Dike Bixler, Joe Caruso, Richard Cassell, Marian Jones, Dough Knopf, Barry Nichols, Doxie Noonan, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (compiler), Jim Pasikowski, Helga Schutte, Larry Smith.

LOUISVILLE (center and habitat as described in 1972). Dec. 18; 5:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 18 to 26°F; wind NW, 0-6 m.p.h. Streams, large lakes and the Ohio River were open. Thirty-three observers in 12 parties. Total party-hours 105 (47 on foot, 58 by car). Total party-miles 451 (40 on foot, 411 by car). Total species 94; total individuals 66,513. A Greater Scaup, a Northern Saw-whet Owl and a Lincoln's Sparrow observed on the count day and Brewer's Blackbird observed during the count period were unique to this census.

Most notable this winter was the establishment of a local vulture roost, which accounts for the record counts of Turkey and Black Vultures.

Double-crested Cormorants occur sporadically in winter; two individuals were noted by one party, and one of these (unquestionably one of the same individuals) was recorded by a second party. Water Pipits also winter sporadically, and single individuals were seen (and heard) by the Monroe and Palmer-Ball parties.

Brainard Palmer-Ball and John Callahan flushed the N. Saw-whet Owl from a low conifer; it was seen well at close range and all field marks (including yellow eyes) were noted; this is the second local winter record and first count report.

The Lincoln's Sparrow was seen at close range by Anne Stamm, who is very familiar with the species, another of the "sporadic winter visitants."

An immature Rufous Hummingbird appeared at a hummingbird feeder in Jeffersonville, Indiana in November and remained in the wild state through 15 December. It has been photographed down to the fine details of the tail feathers, and identification to species is positive (including elimination of the remote possibility of Allen's). To prevent freezing of the feeder fluid, a feeder was placed inside a basement area to which the bird gradually became accustomed, but it would not use perches provided for overnight roosting, departing the area every evening. Upon the onset of severe cold certain to kill the bird in an exterior roost site, the bird was confined to the basement area on 15 December, in which it is presently doing fine and feeding well. Since the bird no longer was free-flying as of the fifteenth, it is not recorded on the count, although it was still a "wild" bird within three days of the count. — Garrett Adams, Mary Bauer, Jane and Pat Bell, Donald Blackburn, Bob Brown, John Callahan, Muriel Doolittle, Brian Johnson, Judy Jones, Marion Jones, F. H., F. X. and John Krull, Burt Monroe, Jr. (compiler), Mark Monroe, Barry Nichols, E. T. and J. R. Noonan, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Jim Pasikowski, Robert Quaife, Lene Rauth, Virginia Rommel, Carl Schultz, Bernice and F. P. Shannon, L. D. Smith, Tony Smith, Anne and F. W. Stamm, Midge Susie, Steve Washburn (Beckham Bird Club).

SHELBYVILLE (center and habitat as described in 1982). Dec. 31; 8:20 a.m. to 6:20 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 5 to 33°F; wind SE, 2-6 m.p.h. Difficult to find open water. Seven observers in one party. Total party-hours 10 (3 on foot, 7 by car). Total party-miles 107 (2 on foot, 105 by car). Total species 41; total individuals 1,079.

The Savannah Sparrow and Snow Bunting were a nice surprise, with the Buntings being observed in two locations. Frigid conditions resulted in a lack of many water birds that had been in the count area during the first week of the count period. Unique to this census was the observation of a Common Loon during the count period. — Christy Brown, Honey Brown, John Brown, Lloyd Brown, Todd Brown, W. H. Brown (compiler), Chris Martin.

FRANKFORT (center as described in 1972). Habitat as described in 1977. Dec. 18; 6:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 22 to 34°F; wind NE, 0-13 m.p.h. Water mostly frozen. Nineteen observers in 11 parties. Total party-hours 59 (34 on foot, 25 by car). Total party-miles 345 (43 on foot, 302 by car). Total species 58; total individuals 4,449.

Numbers of species and individuals were down with some found only around feeders. Our best finds were the Red-breasted Nuthatches and Pine Siskins at the feeders. The Pine Warbler was studied at close range in a small group of pines at Eastwood Shopping Center the day before the count. Great Blue Herons have been plentiful this year and the Bluebirds have sustained their good numbers. Numbers of finches, sparrows, woodpeckers, except Pileated, vultures and hawks were definitely down. Except for ash, osage orange and multiflora rose, wild food was scarce. — John and W. H. Brown, Karen and Rose Canon, Manton Cornett, Peggy Durbin, James Durell, Scott Hankla, Virginia Honaker, Howard Jones (eompiler), Jeff Jones, Joel Jones, Lynne Mekus, Bob Morris, Marla Nunnally, Glenn Raleigh, Jim Rettig, Jim Williams, Tim Williams.

KLEBER WILDLIFE MANAGEMENT AREA (center and habitat as described in 1972). Dec. 31; 7:15 a.m. to 5:15 p.m. Sky mostly clear; temp. 3 to 28°F; wind S, 3-8 m.p.h. All water frozen except the Kentucky River, one-half inch of snow cover. Two observers in one party. Total party-hours

10 (5 on foot, 5 by car). Total party-miles 92 (5 on foot, 87 by car). Total species 36; total individuals 619.

The lower numbers of species and individuals can not be completely attributed to the fact that fewer observers participated. The wild food crop was poor; red cedar berries and general weed seeds were especially reduced. Corn fields had little to offer with the severe summer drought and PIK program. Our best finds were the Horned Larks at a cattle feedlot and the continued presence of the White-breasted Nuthatches. — Peggy Durbin, Howard Jones (compiler).

LEXINGTON (center and habitat as described in 1978). Dec. 17; 6:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. Sky clear with increasing clouds; temp. 15 to 32° F; wind W, 10-15 m.p.h. Thirty-six observers in 12 parties. Total party-hours 91 (37 on foot, 54 by car). Total party-miles 515 (31 on foot, 484 by car). Total species 80; total individuals 20,838.

The highlight of the day was the sighting of 25 Tundra (Whistling) Swans that circled several times over a farm in southern Fayette County near the Kentucky River. — Roger and William Barbour, Earl, Mable, Michael and Gary Boggs, Bonnie, Eugene and Ann Bradley, Rose and Laura Canon, Manton Cornett, Ron Duncan, Lyda Feck, Doris Ferm, Mike Flynn, Anna Mae Helton, Ruth Housek, Marcia Hurlow, Terri Koontz, Betty Maxson, Bob Morris, Charlotte Parsons, Tom Rae, Glenn Raleigh, Algie Reece, Nikki Rothwell, Greg Strump, Marie Sutton, Flo and Tom Tandy, Andy and Marion Uterhart, Jim Williams (compiler), Tim Williams, Bernice Wood.

DANVILLE (center and habitat as described in 1983). Dec. 17, 8:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear until 3 p.m. then high clouds; temp 18 to 35°F; wind 0-4 m.p.h. Twenty-seven observers in eight parties. Total party-hours 54.75 (16.75 on foot, 38 by car). Total party-miles 448 (24 on foot, 424 by car). Total species 61; total individuals 5,091.

Chauncey Alcock, Joe Amburgey, Ernest Baird, Harry and Molly Caldwell, Margaret Caldwell, Lois and Bob Corcoran, Ken Dickey, Ginny and Neil Eklund (compilers), Tobin and Mrs. Tom Foster, John Gower, JoAnn Hamm, Morton Hoaglund, J. W. Kemper, Dr. F. W. and Naomi Loetscher, Jack Newton, John B. Nichols, Mike Norris, Rob Pendygraft, Flor Preston, Les Reid, Louise Robinson, Joe Russell.

BURLINGTON (center as described in 1975) Habitat: woodland and forest edge 60%, river and lake shore 20%, open field 15%, residential 5%. Dec. 31; 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky clear to partly cloudy; temp. 1 to 26°F; wind S, 0-10 m.p.h. Streams and lakes frozen, Ohio River partially open. Ten observers in three parties. Total party-hours 31 (10 on foot, 21 by car). Total party-miles 90 (6 on foot, 84 by car). Total species 45; total individuals 1,529. Unique to this census was the sighting of a Northern Goshawk on the day of the count.

A good representation of waterfowl was noted along the Ohio River. Woodpeckers were present in lower than normal numbers, with Rufous-sided Towhees and American Tree Sparrows notable for their apparent absence. The N. Goshawk was seen by Gerri Kennedy at East Bend. — Mike Andrews, JoAnn Conradi, Stan Hirtle, Ed Kennedy, Gerri Kennedy, Carolyn McNeely, Lee McNeely (compiler), Lynda McNeely, George Schoen, Tommy Stephens.

SOMERSET (center and habitat as described in 1980). Dec. 31; 7:00 a.m. to 5:30 p.m. Sky partly cloudy; temp. 2 to 33°F; wind S, 0-10 m.p.h.

Three observers in two parties. Total party-hours 17 (5 on foot, 12 by car). Total party-miles 164 (5 on foot, 159 by car). Total species 52; total individuals 208,513.

The Rough-legged Hawk observed from Blaze Valley Road was a nice find. The large numbers of blackbirds were from a roost near the General Electric Plant in Somerset. The Water Pipits were observed walking on a frozen pond. The Double-crested Cormorant was observed near Bronston during the count period. Waterfowl numbers were down due to frozen pond conditions. — Jackie Elmore, Sr. (compiler), Ginger Murphy, Robert Murphy.

PERRY COUNTY (center Rosann White Branch). Habitat: woodland and woodland edge and the north fork of the Kentucky River. Dec. 20; 7:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. Sky cloudy with snow flurries; temp. 20°F; wind 0-5 m.p.h. Two observers in one party. Total party-hours 12 (11 on foot, 1 by car). Total party-miles 25 (5 on foot, 20 by car). Total species 38; total individuals 340.

White-throated Sparrow numbers were down this year. Golden-crowned Kinglets were doing well, as were woodpeckers in old neglected woodlands. Hawks and Owls appeared to be suffering this year, perhaps due to human intervention. — Benjamin Spencer, Donnie Spencer (compiler).

CUMBERLAND GAP (center as described in 1982). Habitat as described in 1983. Jan. 1; 8:30 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear to partly cloudy; temp. 18 to 49°F; wind variable, 0-5 m.p.h. Eight observers in one party. Total party-hours 8 (4 on foot, 4 by car). Total party-miles 69 (2 on foot, 67 by car). Total species 44; total individuals 703.

Hawks of several species were unusually common and visible. This was the first year that a Cooper's Hawk had been seen on the census. Also, this was the first recorded sighting of House Finches for Bell County. — Michele Bingham, Richard Cassell, Ross Chasteen, Carol Childress, Clarence Conaster, Ron Day, Alma Hoskins, Barry Howard (compiler).

FLOYD COUNTY (center Abbott Creek, Allen, Dewey Lake, Martin and Prestonburg city limits). Habitat: fallow, hardwood forest, grassland, wetland (lake and pond areas), residential. Dec. 26; 10:00 a.m. to 1:30 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 15 to 20°F; wind 5-10 m.p.h. Seven observers in three parties. Total party-hours 6.5 (6.5 on foot). Total species 27; total individuals 205.

It was not known at the time of the count that travel time was needed, thus none of the participants kept track of travel time. — D. Adkins, R. Bryant, J. K. Creek, D. Halbert, J. McGinn, C. M. Ross, and J. E. Ross (compiler).

PINE MOUNTAIN SETTLEMENT SCHOOL (center and habitat as described in 1980). Jan. 8; 5:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. Sky clear; temp. 20 to 49°F; wind W, 0-10 m.p.h. Fourteen observers in three parties. Total party-hours 23 (19.5 on foot, 3.5 by car), plus 8.5 hours at feeders and 2 hours owling. Total party-miles 102 (18 on foot, 84 by car), plus 16 miles owling. Total species 41; total individuals 1,525.

As many as three Common Ravens have been seen in the count area periodically since late November. — Julious Begley, Liz Bradshaw, Karoun Cartozian, Gary Cummisk, Afton, John and Neville Garrison, Steve McKee (compiler), Matthew Miller, Francis Owens, Carol Urquhart, Mary Waid, Jack Whitfield, May Williams.

— Blaine Ferrell, Biology Department, Western Kentucky University, Bowling Green, 42101.

THE FALL MIGRATION SEASON, 1983

Anne L. Stamm

The weather in the fall of 1983 was similar throughout the state: dry and hot through August and September, and temperatures averaged above normal for October and November. The summer drought continued through September, but rainfall in October and November was above normal.

The mild autumn delayed migration for many species of birds. Heavy flights of ducks and geese did not occur until mid-November. No major hawk flights were observed. The shorebird migration was good in most parts of the state, with the exception of Boone County, where water covered the choice habitats. The mild weather also accounted for many species of swallows and warblers lingering beyond normal departure dates. Evening Grosbeaks invaded the state in late October and persisted throughout November.

Loons through Ibis — Common Loons were widespread and passed through in small numbers from October 23 to November 18 (m. ob.); unusual August records included single birds at Lake Malone, Muhlenberg County (JHe), McAlpin Dam (LR), Cave Run Lake (FB) and one at Wood Creek Lake, Laurel County on September 15 (S, FS). Pied-billed Grebe migration was poor, with the exception of fair numbers at Lake Pewee, with 109 present on November 15 (JH). Horned Grebes were in low numbers, too. There were several sightings of one to six Double-crested Cormorants in Ballard, Muhlenberg, Jefferson, Fayette, and Rowan Counties from August 15 through November (m. ob.) Eighteen to 20 Great Blue Herons were present at Jonathan Creek and 20-30 at Lake Barkley from August to mid-October (CP); post-breeding vagrants numbered 15 and 19 at the Mayfair Basins, Louisville on August 21 (S, FS) and August 22 (DN), respectively; a high of 10 at the Falls of the Ohio (BPB), eight at Pulaski County Park (JEl, JC), six at Cave Run Lake (FB) and a few at Paradise Steam Plant, Muhlenberg County (BPB). A single Great Egret made its appearance at the Falls of the Ohio on August 2 (S, FS) and a high of seven was there on October 2 (LR); singles at Lentz's Pond (JC), Green River Lake (JEl), Paradise Steam Plant, Muhlenberg County (BPB, with B. Nichols) and at Jonathan Creek where it lingered until October 14 (MM); three at Taylorsville Lake on August 24, with one present as late as October 16 (JC). A Snowy Egret appeared at the Falls of the Ohio on August 18 and remained until September 15 (BPB, BM, m. ob.). Four immature Little Blue Herons were reported at the Minor Clark Fish Hatchery on August 1 (FB); singles at Bowling Green, August 16 (JC), the Falls of the Ohio on August 17 (LR); an adult at Mayfair Basins on September 10 (S); 100+ at Ballard Wildlife Management Area (hereafter BWMA) on August 29 (BPB, CP, J. Erwin) and one still there September 24 (DN, BPB). A Cattle Egret at the Falls of the Ohio August 18-28 was the only one reported (BPB, BBC). Thirty to 40 Green-backed Herons were present at the Clark Hatchery August through mid-September (FB), but elsewhere numbers were low; one still present at Lake Pewee on October 31 (JH). Black-crowned Night Herons were in low numbers, with the exception of the 80 at the Falls of the Ohio on September 15 (BPB) and the 59 at Lentz's Pond, September 5 (DN); only 12 immatures at Lake Barkley on August 24 (CP); one at Lake #9 on September 5 and 24 (BPB *et al.*); and one to two at the Clark Hatchery between

August 23 and September 28 (FB), where it is uncommon in fall. The only Yellow-crowned Night Herons reported were two adults and five immatures at the Falls of the Ohio on August 16-24 (BPB) and one still there August 28 (S). The adult White Ibis at BWMA on August 29 was an interesting record (BPB, CP, J. Erwin) also noted on September 3 (DN).

Waterfowl — Although six Snow Geese arrived with 30 Canada Geese at Lexington on the early date of September 10 (MF), the major flights did not take place until mid-November when 3,500 Snow Geese and 10,000 Canada Geese were tabulated at BWMA (TY); two flocks of Snow Geese totaling 300 birds passed over Crestwood on November 25 (*fide* JB) A single Snow Goose noted at BWMA on August 29 (BPB *et al.*) and September 24 may have been injured. The mild weather offered little inducement for ducks to migrate south, however, good movements were noted in the Louisville area on November 11 (LR) and November 24 (BPB), but passed the area quickly; good flights at BWMA on November 7 with 6,000 present, but numbers jumped to 12,000 on November 14 (TY). Dabbling ducks were in low numbers with the exception of the American Black Ducks and Mallards at BWMA; although Wood Duck numbers were low, 30 were present at the Falls of the Rough (KC), 40 at the Frankfort Fish Hatchery (JEl) and 15 at Mayfair Basins (JK); Blue-winged Teal included 35 at Louisville (S), 50 at Green River Lake (JEl); 100 American Widgeons were at Lake Pewee (JH). Diving ducks included 338 Ring-necked Ducks at Lake Pewee on November 15 (JH); Greater Scaup at Mayfair Basins on November 16 and 18 (DN) and one there in late November — no date — perhaps the same bird (BPB), three to four Black Scoters at Louisville on November 13 (DN, BPB) and one on November 24 (BPB). Buffle-heads made their appearance at Louisville on November 11 (LR), and approximately 50 were present on November 24 (BPB). Six Hooded Mergansers appeared at Mayfair Basins on November 12 (JP) and above McAlpin Dam the following day (LR). Twelve Common Mergansers were present at Barren River on November 24 (DS) and 10 Red-breasted Mergansers were noted in the Danville area, November 26 (FL), with smaller numbers at several other locations during the latter part of November. Ruddy Ducks numbered 54 at Lake Pewee on November 30 (JH).

Vultures through Falcons — The largest flock of Black Vultures was the 45 at Fishing Creek Recreational Area in Pulaski County, September 20 (JEl). High counts of Turkey Vultures included 85 individuals in trees at Long Run County Park, September 5 (S, FS); 60 at Fishing Creek Recreational Area, September 20 (JEl); 47 at the Minor Clark Fish Hatchery, November 2 (FB); 30-40 at Taylorsville Lake, September 11 (JC); and 35 in western Boone County during August to October (LMc). Single Ospreys were reported from 10 localities ranging from Land Between the Lakes to Cave Run Lake from September 7 to November 2 (m. ob.). Two Mississippi Kites were present at BWMA on August 29 and one was there September 5 (BPB *et al.*); two in Carlisle County, September 3 (DN, with J. R. Noonan). An interesting record of a mature Bald Eagle took place on a farm along the Ohio River in Oldham County on September 26 (*fide* JK); an immature had arrived at BWMA on October 17 (TY) and one to two were present during November at Otter Creek (S, FS), Barren River (DS), Taylorsville Lake (JC) and Land Between the Lakes (CP) and three at BWMA (TY). There were several sightings of Northern Harriers mainly of one to three birds from August 29 to November 30

(m. ob.). No major hawk flights were reported. Ten Broad-winged Hawks were seen over Louisville on September 22 (BPB). Numbers of American Kestrels were "down drastically" in the Murray area (CP), but seemed normal elsewhere. An unusual record was that of a Merlin, well studied, at Louisville on October 16 (DN). Peregrine Falcons are always exciting to see and two were present at Shakertown, September 15 (RM); and one at Barkley Lake, September 25 (DN, BPB, with B. Nichols).

Turkeys through Cranes — A number of Wild Turkeys were observed at the Land Between the Lakes on September 24 (KOS). A dead Virginia Rail was found near a TV tower at Columbia, Adair County (JEl), October 22. Two Soras were flushed while roping a hayfield in Louisville on September 22 and one on October 1 (BPB, D. Coskren, DN). The highest count of American Coots was 2,250 at Lake Pewee on November 15 (JH). Sandhill Cranes began migrating through Kentucky the first week of November, but major flights began passing over Louisville and central Kentucky between November 22-24; two flocks of 18 and 46 at Danville on the former date (FL); 130 birds sighted halfway between Danville and Harrodsburg (RM); 100 in a flock over St. Matthews (JB, PB), and a flock of 175 followed by smaller groups of 45, 30 and 20 over Louisville (BPB), all on the latter date.

Shorebirds — The migration of shorebirds was fair to good depending on habitat conditions; numbers, however, were low, with the exception of Stilt, Western and Least Sandpipers. Owing to the wide variety of species and numbers of individuals, it is impossible to include all the material herein; therefore, the following is a synopsis of the material, which could not have been prepared without the many observations. Single Black-bellied Plovers were present at Louisville from September 9 to October 16 (LR), at Green River Lake, October 5 (JEl), and Paradise Steam Plant, September 25 (BPB); two at the Clark Hatchery, September 21 (FB) and seven in Carlisle County, September 24 (BPB). Lesser Golden Plovers were found only at the Falls of the Ohio and Fishing Creek Recreational Area, with seven on September 15 and one on September 22, respectively (BPB, JEl). Killdeer concentrations were noted at the Clark Hatchery, with 160 on November 2 and 235+ on November 18 (FB), 150 at the Falls of the Ohio, August 31 (BPB) and at Fishing Creek Recreational Area, November 18 (JEl). An American Avocet at the Falls of the Ohio on September 2 was the only one reported (BPB). Greater Yellowlegs were widespread and ranged from Lake #9 to the Clark Hatchery, with one to eight birds at the various locations (m. ob.). Lesser Yellowlegs were widespread and fairly large concentrations were noted at some localities: 39 at Louisville, September 7 (LR), 30 at Mayfair Basins, September 10 (S, FS), 10 at Paradise Steam Plant and 125 at Lake #9, September 24 (BPB, DN); 23 at the Clark Hatchery, September 21 (FB). Two Willets were observed at Mayfair Basins on September 2 and one at BWMA the following day (DN). Ruddy Turnstones were scarce: singles present at the Clark Hatchery, August 2 (FB) at Dam #53 on September 5 (BPB); Frankfort (BPB), and the Falls of the Ohio (S, MF, *et al.*) on September 11. Sanderlings were present from August 17 to September 24, with eight at the Falls of the Ohio (LR); 25 in Carlisle County (BPB, DN, with B. Nichols); one at Fishing Creek and two at Pulaski County Park (JEl) may have been the first for that county. Western Sandpipers were present from August 18 to September 25; highest number — 100 — at Lake #9 and 10 at Mitchell Lake on September 5 (BPB, R. Cassell, A. Barron); several sight-

ings at the Falls of the Ohio, with one to 12 individuals (BPB, S, FS); one to four at Fishing Creek Recreational Area, August 26-31 (JEl and with JC latest date). High counts of Least Sandpipers occurred mainly in the western sections of the state in late September and November: at least 60 at Jonathan Creek on November 26 (CP); 65 at Paradise Steam Plant, September 23 and 100 at Lake #9, September 24 (BPB); few at Louisville (S) and at Fishing Creek (JEl). The two White-rumped Sandpipers at the Clark Hatchery on October 26 were noteworthy (FB). Baird's Sandpipers were recorded singly at seven locations from August 21 at Frankfort (BPB) to November 4 at Fishing Creek Recreational Area (JEl); other sightings at BWMA (DN), Jonathan Creek (MM), Burnside Island State Park (JEl), and the Falls of the Ohio and Carlisle County (BPB *et al.*). Pectoral Sandpipers were most numerous during August through November at the Clark Hatchery, with a high count of 73 (FB); one was still present at Jonathan Creek on November 26 (MM, CP and E. Larson). Dunlin were scarce; fairly early arrivals included two at Green River Lake (JEl) and six at the Clark Hatchery, September 21 (FB); eight was the highest count reported at Jonathan Creek and five were still there on November 30 (CP). Stilt Sandpipers usually uncommon in the fall were present in surprising numbers: 12 at BWMA, September 3 (DN); 11 to 22 at Jonathan Creek, September 8, 23, 24 (CP, MM); 25 at Paradise Steam Plant, September 24 (BPB) and 175 at Lake #9, September 24 (DN, BPB, B. Nichols); singles at the Falls of the Ohio (DN, BM, BPB) and Green River Lake (JEl); a late straggler was present at Jonathan Creek, November 8 (CP). Although Buff-breasted Sandpipers were in low numbers, they were fairly well distributed and reported from some areas where heretofore they had not been recorded: one to three at Fishing Creek Recreational Area, August 26-31 (JEl and JC on latter date); singles at the Falls of the Ohio, August 31, September 14, 15 (BPB); two in Ballard County, August 29 (BPB, CP, J. Erwin); one at Mitchell Lake and six in Carlisle County, September 5 (BPB, A. Barron, R. Cassell). A single Short-billed Dowitcher was reported at each of three locations: BWMA, September 5 (BPB), Pulaski County Park, September 20-23 (JEl) and Lake #9, September 24 (DN, BPB). A Long-billed Dowitcher was reported at the TVA Paradise Steam Plant, September 25 (BPB). Common Snipe numbers peaked at 35 at Jonathan Creek on November 26, with 18 still there on November 30 (CP). A Wilson's Phalarope appeared at the Falls of the Ohio, August 19 and 20, but seven were there on August 22 (BPB); one in Carlisle County, September 5 (BPB); three at the Clark Hatchery, September 21 (FB); late stragglers were singles at Honker Lake, September 22 (CP), LBL (FB, S, KOS) and Lake #9 (DN, BPB) on September 24.

Gulls through Terns — The documented sighting of an immature Laughing Gull below McAlpin Dam on October 14 was most unusual (LR), and later was observed by BPB and on October 21 (DN). A flock of five Franklin's Gulls was discovered near the Falls of the Ohio on November 11 (LR), two remained in the afternoon (BPB, BM) and one was still there November 13 (BPB). Bonaparte's Gulls were fairly widespread and interesting records included three birds at the Clark Hatchery, October 24 (FB), 10 at Newburgh Dam, Henderson County, November 25 (BPB); concentrations were noted at Wolf Creek Dam, Russell County, with 30 on November 13 (JEl), 60-80 at Barkley and Kentucky Dams, November 26 (CP), and 30 at the Falls of the Ohio, November 20 (BPB). A Ring-billed Gull was present at Louisville on August 12 (S) and only one was

still there on October 14 (BPB), but 400 had arrived by November 13 (BPB); a high count of 1,000 at Barkley and Kentucky Dams on November 30, was less than usual (CP). Caspian Terns were present in low numbers, the highest count reported was 12 at Louisville, September 7 (LR). Few Forster's Terns were reported, but one at Green River Lake, October 23 was the latest record for this species in Kentucky (JEl). The record of five Least Terns at the Clark Hatchery on September 7 was an interesting one (FB); other sightings were in Fulton, Carlisle and Ballard Counties, with a high of 20 at BWMA (BPB, CP, J. Erwin *et al.*). Only two reports of Black Terns: one at Louisville, September 7 (LR) and three on sandbars in Carlisle County, September 5 (BPB, *et al.*).

Owls through Woodpeckers — A Common Barn Owl was seen near Lawrenceburg, October 28 (JEl). An injured Long-eared Owl was found by R. Bailey at New Hope, November 19 and brought to Bernheim Forest Nature Center the following day, and although its wing was set, the bird died (*fide* A. Coomes). At Mayfair Basins a concentration of 500 Chimney Swifts was seen October 8 (S, FS, F. X. Krull) and 125 at the Clark Hatchery, October 7 (FB); rather late stragglers included six at Florence, October 23 (LMc). A Ruby-throated Hummingbird observed at a feeder in Leitchfield on November 18 was unusual (Alita Wilson *fide* KC). Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were scarce.

Flycatchers through Wrens — Two Eastern Wood Pewees remained rather late: one in Boone County on October 17 (LMc) and one in Louisville on October 29 (BPB). The latter provided a late date. One and two Yellow-bellied Flycatchers were seen at Louisville on Septmeber 2 and 3, respectively (BPB); one at Danville on September 15 (FL). Two Willow Flycatchers were observed singing at the Clark Hatchery on August 2 (FB) and a Least Flycatcher was in song on September 14 at Louisville (BPB). At the Pikeville College Farm 25+ Eastern Phoebes were seen on September 10 (FB). A flock of 250 Tree Swallows was noted at the Clark Hatchery on October 7 (FB). There were a few late observations of swallows: Tree Swallows, November 12 at Fishing Creek (JEl); Rough-winged Swallows, November 12 and Cliff Swallows, October 26 at the Clark Fish Hatchery (FB). A southward movement of Blue Jays was noted at the Clark Hatchery, October 4 when 120+ passed within a two-hour time period (FB). There were a number of Sedge Wren observations from August 6 to October 21: singing males in the Counties of Green, Powell, (BM) and Calloway (BPB); adult and fledglings in Larue County (DN); other sightings in Jefferson and Ballard Counties (BPB, DN *et al.*). Marsh Wrens were reported at only three localities: single birds at Louisville (BPB, DN) and Madisonville (JH); four at the Clark Hatchery (FB); all sightings between October 3 and 21.

Kinglets and Vireos — Both the Ruby-crowned and Golden-crowned Kinglets were "abundant" during October in the Burlington area (LMc). High counts of Water Pipits in November included 50 at Fishing Creek Recreational Area (JEl) and 40 at Louisville (BPB). Migratory movements of Cedar Waxwings were noted with flocks of 50 or more at Kentucky Dam Village, September 23 (KOS) and at Eubank, October 19 (JEl); smaller groups of 25 to 35 at the Falls of the Rough (KC) and Cave Run (FB) during November. Few Loggerhead Shrikes were encountered: one at Kentucky Dam Village State Park, September 24 (KOS); one in Breckenridge County, September 26 (RB); and two at Danville, November 5

(FL). Interesting records of the Philadelphia Vireo included singles at Pulaski County Park, September 13 (JEl), Danville, September 22 (FL), and Breaks Interstate Park, October 1 and two at the Clark Hatchery on September 28 (FB).

Warblers through Sparrows — Comments on the warbler migration were mixed, however, there were three detectable movements in October. Due to the mildness of autumn a few species lingered beyond normal departure dates. A single Brewster's hybrid was seen at Louisville on September 2 (BPB). Single Orange-crowned Warblers were discovered at Crestwood on October 15 and at Long Run County Park, October 25 (S). A Yellow Warbler at Eubank on November 13 provided a late state date (JEl). Early migrants included a Magnolia Warbler at Eubank, August 21 (JEl) and a Cape May Warbler at Danville, September 1 (FL). Cape May Warblers were unusually common in the Burlington area from October 8 to 16 (LMc); 10 at Breaks Interstate Park, October 1 (FB); two lingered at Eubank through October 25 (JEl), another late date. Single Black-throated Blue Warblers were present at Boone County Cliffs on October 5 (LMc), Clark Park, in Louisville on October 9 (BS) and a dead bird found at a TV tower in Adair County on October 22 (JEl). The Yellow-rumped (Myrtle) Warbler was reported in higher-than-normal numbers; two flocks totaling 45 at Long Run County Park were noted on October 9 (S, FS); counts of 45, 75 and 80 individuals at the Clark Hatchery during October, with a high of *181* on October 19 (FB); good numbers at the Falls of the Rough (KC) and at Crestwood (S). Black-throated Green Warblers were common at Creason Park on October 9 (BS) and some 40 were seen at Breaks Interstate Park, October 1 (FB). A Blackburnian Warbler lingered through October 21 at Eubank (JEl). A Yellow-throated Warbler at Burlington on October 15 provided a late date for northern Kentucky (LMc). Other rather late departing warblers included a Palm at Louisville, November 8 (BPB); a Bay-breasted at Burlington, October 24 (LMc); and a Worm-eating Warbler at Louisville, October 9 (BS). Three Mourning Warblers were reported: one at Danville on September 13 (FL) and singles at two Louisville locations on September 15 (BPB) and October 7 (DN). Rose-breasted Grosbeaks appeared to be in low numbers. A Blue Grosbeak was observed singing at Danville on August 13 (FL). A Henslow's Sparrow was reported in Green County on August 6 (BM) and singles were flushed while roping a field in Louisville during October (BPB, DN). White-throated Sparrow migration peaked in late October and early November, particularly in Rowan and Bath Counties (FB). Dark-eyed (Slate-colored) Juncos were late in arriving and first observed at Hickman on October 8 (CP) and at Bernheim Forest on the following day (DN, BBC); peaked on November 2 and 4 with 150 birds at Clear Creek Furnace Campground, Bath County and the same number at the Clark Hatchery (FB). Lapland Longspurs were not common and only singles were reported at Louisville and Barkley Dam (BPB). Two Rusty Blackbirds arrived fairly early at Long Run County Park, October 9 (S). Two pairs of Brewer's Blackbirds were discovered in a plowed field in Louisville on November 6 (all details noted BPB). Purple Finches were absent in some areas and low in numbers elsewhere. House Finches continued to spread and at Danville they oversummered and presumably bred (FL). Pine Siskins were scarce, but reported in small numbers at Madisonville, the Falls of the Rough, Louisville and West Liberty. Evening Grosbeaks were widespread and arrived in late October and throughout November (m. ob.).

Reports for the Winter Season (December through February) should reach the writer by March 7, 1984. Thanks again, all of you, for your cooperation and helpful notes.

Contributors — J. Bell (JB), P. Bell (PB), F. Busroe (FB), R. Brown (RB), J. Callahan (JC), K. Clay (KC), G. Elam, J. Elmore (JEl), M. Flynn (MF), J. Hancock (JH), J. Heisterberg (JHe), E. Groneman, J. Krull (JK), F. Loetscher (FL), L. McNeely (LMc), M. Miller (MM), B. Monroe, Jr. (BM), R. Morris (RM), D. Noonan (DN), B. Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BPB), J. Pasikowski (JP), C. Peterson (CP), L. Rauth (LR), Ann Ramsay, B. Shannon (BS), A. Stamm (S), F. Stamm (FS), D. Summerfield (DS), T. Young (TY). Other abbreviations — Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Kentucky Ornithological Society (KOS), Ballard Wildlife Management Area (BWMA), — 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222.

FIELD NOTE

SUMMER SIGHTING OF COMMON LOON IN MADISON COUNTY

On 14 June 1983 I received a call concerning an "unusual bird" near a small pond just east of Union City (4.5 miles northeast of Richmond, Madison County). By the time I arrived the bird had been captured and placed in a large box. Examination revealed a first-year Common Loon *(Gavia immer)*. The loon did not appear to have any broken bones or other obvious injuries. I took the bird with the intention of feeding it for a few days before releasing it. The loon was fed numerous minnows that evening, however, it was found dead the next morning.

Common Loons are uncommon in Kentucky in the spring and those that do migrate through Kentucky in spring generally pass through by mid-May (Wilson, 1969, Ky. Warbler 45: 32; Stamm, 1979, Ky. Warbler 55: 46; Stamm, 1980, Ky. Warbler 56: 59). There are very few reports of Common Loons in Kentucky during the summer months. Mengel (1965: 152, The Birds of Kentucky, A.O.U. Monogr. 3) reported that "a loon, perhaps crippled, remained at Spring Lake, Madisonville, from June 27 to July 24, 1927." Monroe (1976, Ky. Warbler 52: 40) reported a late date of 5 June (1976) for Common Loons in the Louisville area. The observations of Mengel and myself suggest that perhaps only those loons incapable of flight due to injury or illness remain in Kentucky during the summer months. — GARY RITCHISON, Department of Biological Sciences, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond.

NEWS AND VIEWS

K.O.S. SPRING MEETING

The spring meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society will be held at Berea on the weekend of April 27. Observing the spring migration is always a pleasurable and exciting time and Berea offers an excellent setting. In addition, there will be a banquet Saturday evening at Boone Tavern. Those interested in making a presentation at the Friday evening meeting should contact Fred Busroe (Program Chairman), Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, Morehead State University, Morehead 40351.

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OUR COVER

We thank Dr. Herbert L. Clay, Jr. of Louisville for this photograph of a Bobolink taken on the Hickman Farm, Goshen, Kentucky.

THE WINTER SEASON OF 1983-84

Anne L. Stamm

This was an unusual winter. The early part of December was rather mild, but a great change took place the latter part of the month, when temperatures were the lowest on record. On December 24, Louisville and Lexington had seven and eight degrees below zero, with wind gusts up to 35 mph and a wind-chill factor around 50-60 degrees below zero. The cold front triggered some waterfowl migration and flights of ducks and geese moved through the state for several weeks in January. Another arctic blast came on January 19-22 shattering records throughout the state; Covington had 21 degrees below zero which was the official low for the state. In sharp contrast, daily highs ranged from the mid-60s to 73 degrees during the week of February 12-18 — about 15 degrees above normal for mid-February. Cold weather set in again in late February, with a snowfall of three to five inches across the state and temperatures dropped to the low 20s.

Many observers commented on the scarcity of food supply. Little food was produced due to the extreme summer drought. Seed-eating birds were numerous at feeders. Birds were in lower numbers than in previous years in some parts of central Kentucky.

A number of unusual gull sightings at Louisville, Smithland, Kentucky and Barkley Lake Dams added interest to the season which many observers felt was a rather dull period.

Loons through Herons — Common Loons did not linger this year and latest records included five at Cave Run Lake, December 5 (FB) and one in Shelby County during the Christmas Bird Count period (WHB). Pied-billed Grebes were higher in numbers during late December than last winter and were fairly widespread in occurrence. Horned Grebes lingered through mid-January at Green River Lake (JEl). One to three Double-crested Cormorants were seen at Towhead Island during December by many observers and one at Lake Cumberland, near Bronston, January 2 (JEl). Great Blue Herons were widespread from December 1 through January 1, with highs of 17 at Mayfair Basins (S, FS, DN), 22 at Lake Barkley (DN *et al.*), and 23 at BWMA (BPB); eighteen were early migrants at Clark Fish Hatchery, February 18, where only three had been on February 13 (FB).

Waterfowl — Snow Geese peaked at 5000 and Canada Geese at 100,000 at BWMA, but by February 12 all had gone northward, with the exception of 1400 of the latter species (TY). A total of 670 Canada Geese was present in the Danville area on January 28 (FL) and a flock of 250 at E. W. Brown Power Plant, Mercer County, January 4 built up to a high of 600-700 by February 9, but none were there two weeks later (JCa). Northward migration of small flocks of Canada Geese was noted all across the state during late January and early February (m. ob). The duck population this winter was rather low. The Ohio River at Louisville was unusually high and swift and fewer ducks were seen. High counts of Black Ducks included 250 at Green River Lake State Park on January 8 (JEl) and 150 at Cave Hill Cemetery on February 19 (S). Fair numbers of Mallards were present statewide and in late December numbered more than during the same period last year (m. ob); the high of 1500 at Brown Power Plant on January 4 was of interest (JCa) as were the 350 at the Green River State Park on January 8 (JEl). Five to 12 Greater Scaup were present

in the Louisville area from December 24 to January 29 (DN, LR, BPB). Single White-winged Scoters were noted at Louisville from January 26 to February 11 (BPB, DN, m. ob.) and at Smithland Dam, Livingston County on February 4 (B. Peterjohn, BPB). Common Goldeneyes were fairly widespread and in greater numbers than in most winters (m. ob.), with the largest number of 500 at Kentucky and Barkley Lakes in January and early February (BPB). The 40 Hooded Mergansers at Green River Lake State Park on January 8 were considered numerous (JEl). Small numbers of Common Mergansers were observed at Green River Lake State Park, January 8 (JEl) and at Louisville during January (DN, BPB), with the largest concentrations in western Kentucky: 250 below Kentucky Dam and approximately 1500 at Silo Overlook (BPB). Only a few Red-breasted Mergansers were reported; singles at Towhead Island, December 4 (S, FS), above McAlpine Dam, January 7 (LR), and at Kentucky Lake, February 10-11 (DN, with Dr. Noonan).

Vultures through Falcons — Although Black Vultures are generally considered rare in Hopkins County, five were seen on December 12 (JH); no roosts were reported. Twenty-four Turkey Vultures were seen in flight over Barren County on December 6 (JCa); migrants were noted in Boone County on February 18 (LMc). Bald Eagles were fairly well distributed across the state and present during the entire period. The January survey totaled 209. There were two interesting reports of Bald Eagles feeding on dead animals; an adult fed on a dead calf in a pasture in Rockcastle County (AR) and several eagles fed on two deer carcasses, which were lying on the ice on Cave Run Lake, Rowan County (FB). Small numbers of Northern Harriers were reported, although an increase was noted in the Murray area (CP). Single Sharp-shinned Hawks were reported from the following locations: Boone County (LMc), Madison County (GR), Pulaski County (JEl), Taylor County (JEl), and two in Boyle (FL) and Jefferson Counties (DN); one captured in a net at Central Kentucky Wildlife Management Area (GR). There was a slight improvement in the number of Cooper's Hawks reported while Red-shouldered Hawks remained scarce. The winter population of Red-tailed Hawks was about the same as last winter, although at Danville the species was thought to be "way under normal" (FL). A hawk representative of the kriderii type was seen at Land Between the Lakes on February 11 (DN). The Rough-legged Hawk population was about the same as last winter, but below that of the 1981-82 season; numbers low at Lexington (RM) and at Danville (FL). The Golden Eagle survey totaled 10 birds from three localities (*fide* JD). Although the CBCs showed a decrease from last winter for the American Kestrel, it was one of the best years for the species at Murray (CP). The only Peregrine Falcon reported for the period was an immature at Central Kentucky Wildlife Management Area on February 26 (Charles Kellner *fide* GR).

Gallinaceous — Ruffed Grouse are seldom reported and it was of interest that one was flushed in the woods at Mt. Vernon on February 12 (AR). Northern Bobwhites were still below the normal winter population and 12-15 recorded at Mt. Vernon on February 27 (AR) were the only ones reported after the CBCs.

Coots through Shorebirds — Twelve American Coots were still present at Doe Run Lake on January 7 (S, DN, FS) and the 51 at Lake Pewee, February 20 may have been early migrants (JH). A late flock of nine

Sandhill Cranes was seen flying south over the Cumberland Parkway, Russell County, December 7 (JCa); two over Otter Creek Park, Meade County, December 16 (Richard Cassell, DN); spring arrivals noted in Munfordville, Hart County, February 15, with 45 on February 21 (SK); four at Louisville, February 16 (LR); and seven over Versailles, March 1 (RM, with B. Maxson). There were 76 Killdeer at Clark Hatchery on December 2 (FB) and 164+ in the Fishing Creek Recreation Area, Pulaski County, December 5 (JEl), but difficult to find after the cold weather. Courtship displays of the American Woodcock observed as early as January 22 at Murray (RE); others at Louisville, February 12-13 (DN), Surrey Hill Farm, Louisville, February 18 (BPB) and February 22 at Fort Wright, Kenton County (EG).

Gulls — Gulls provided some of the more interesting records this winter. A Franklin's Gull in first winter plumage was seen at Kentucky Dam, December 3 (DN, BPB, with R. Cassell and Barry Nichols). Fair numbers of Bonaparte's Gulls were present during December at Shippingport Island (S, FS), Falls of the Ohio (DN, BPB), Towhead Island (S, FS), and highest numbers at Kentucky Dam, with 30 to 100 (DN, BPB). Ring-billed Gulls were widespread, but not as numerous as in some winters. The high water at Louisville at certain times during the period sent gulls elsewhere, yet when the water went down and the rock ledge was exposed good numbers were seen. Largest concentrations, as expected, were seen in western Kentucky: 5000 at Kentucky, Barkley and Smithland Dams during December (BPB *et al.*) and 3500 at Kentucky Dam Village Park marina, February 4 (TOS); smaller groups, but interesting ones were found farther east, with 100+ at Green River Lake, January 8 (JEl), 130+ at Cave Run Lake, February 18 (FB) and 150 at Barren River during the period (WM); also observed in small numbers along the Ohio River in Boone County (LMc) and in Danville area (FL). Two albinistic Ring-billed Gulls noted: an immature on December 3 at Kentucky Dam (DN, BPB, *et al.*) and an adult at Kentucky Dam, December 20 (BPB, LR, with B. Nichols) and February 4 at Smithland Dam (B. Peterjohn, BPB). As usual, concentrations of Herring Gulls were at Kentucky, Barkley and Smithland Dams, with smaller numbers scattered in central Kentucky (m. ob.). A Thayer's Gull in its first winter plumage was unexpected at Shippingport Island, December 9 (S, FS); three first-winter plumage birds: one at Smithland Dam, January 17 (BPB, with J. Caruso), one at the same place, January 28-30, possibly the same bird (BPB, R. Cassell) and one there on February 4 (BPB, B. Peterjohn); one to two second-year birds at Smithland Dam, January 7, 17, 28-30 and February 4 (BPB, TOS members, R. Cassell, J. Caruso, B. Peterjohn); also a Thayer's Gull in the third-winter plumage at Smithland Dam, February 4 and one at Kentucky Dam, January 29 (BPB *et al.*). One of the rarities of the season was the Iceland Gull which was identified by Bruce Peterjohn on February 4. The bird was found on the Falls of the Ohio by Doxie Noonan on December 27 where it remained through February 6. A good number of Glaucous Gulls in various plumages were present this winter. The first Glaucous Gull appeared on the Ohio River, near McAlpine Dam, December 26 (KC); singles at two different times at the Falls of the Ohio between December 27 and January 20 (DN, BPB, m. ob.); single birds were found at Newburgh, Smithland, Barkley and Kentucky Dams on various trips between January 7 and February 5 (BPB, TOS, DN *et al.*). An immature Great Black-backed Gull in first-winter plumage on the Falls of the Ohio, Janu-

ary 29 was unusual (DN, with J. Noonan). An adult Black-legged Kittiwake found below Kentucky Dam, December 3 was extraordinary (DN, BPB, R. Cassell, B. Nichols).

Owls — The only Barn Owl report was of a road kill found along I-64 in Rowan County, February 2 (FB). There were no reports of Short-eared Owls, although the species was looked for in suitable habitat.

Woodpeckers through Wrens — Woodpeckers showed some decline in Boone and Kenton Counties (LMc, EG), but appeared stable elsewhere. Red-headed Woodpeckers were doing well in western Kentucky. In some areas, Yellow-bellied Sapsuckers were absent. Wintering Eastern Phoebes were seen on January 4 and 6 at Cumberland Falls and Cave Run Lake, respectively (JEl, FB). A single migrant returned to Cherokee Park on February 18 (JB, PB). There were good counts of Horned Larks at Sorgho, Hopkinsville and Shelbyville during late December, but were scarce after the zero temperature (m. ob.). Fair numbers of Red-breasted Nuthatches were present and fairly well distributed. Brown Creepers exceeded those of last winter in Rowan County (FB). The Carolina Wren showed improvement in most areas.

Kinglets through Shrikes — Golden-crowned Kinglets were scarce in northern Kentucky (LMc) and in the Danville area (FL) and showed some slight decrease throughout the state. The Eastern Bluebird showed marked increases in central Kentucky and lesser gains in western sections of the state (m. ob.). Good numbers of Hermit Thrushes were present during late December, particularly in central Kentucky. Flocks of American Robins were found where food was plentiful, but few in areas where food was scarce. Wild fruit was scarce this winter due to the summer's drought. Robins were difficult to find in January after the frigid weather set in, but migrants began appearing in mid-February. Wintering Brown Thrashers were seen at Fort Wright on January 27 (EG) and at Somerset, February 9 (JEl). Cedar Waxwings were common in late December and were widespread; a flock of 100 were observed eating honeysuckle berries in south Louisville, January 8 (WJ). The Loggerhead Shrike population was similar to that in the winter of 1982-83.

Warblers through Fingillids — Yellow-rumped Warblers showed some decrease across the state although 60 were counted at Granhampton, Meade County, February 24 (BN). A few Pine Warblers were reported on the CBCs (HJ, JB, PB) and previously published; one was present at Lake Cumberland, February 13 (BPB). Tree Sparrows were again scarce in some areas, particularly in Burlington (LMc). There were fewer sightings of Fox Sparrows and most reports were of one to two birds at feeders, after the three to five-inch snowfall, February 28 (m. ob.). White-crowned Sparrows were low in numbers across the state compared with last winter's CBCs and particularly scarce at Louisville (S) and at Murray (CP). Few Lapland Longspurs were present, highest count 15-20 birds in Louisville, December 29 (BPB). The majority of Red-winged Blackbirds left the Louisville and Danville areas after the advent of severe weather, but were back by mid-February (FL, S). Eastern Meadowlarks were scattered again and not up to normal numbers. Numbers of Rusty Blackbirds arrived at feeders around January 10 and remained throughout the period (DN, S). A few Brewer's Blackbirds were seen: two females, December 19 in east Louisville (DN), and a male, February 29, just a few miles from the other

sighting (S, FS). Blackbirds were generally scarce with the exception of a large roost in Somerset which was estimated at 1.2 million birds in mid-January (JEl). (The estimate was made by Fish and Wildlife biologists.) Purple Finches were uncommon in most areas until mid-January and highs of 300 were counted at Murray (RE) and 75-100 at Central Kentucky Wildlife Management Area (GR); smaller numbers elsewhere. House Finches continued to spread, with a high count of 200 at Eubank (JEl). Three Common Redpolls at Murray, December 18 were the only ones reported (RE). Pine Siskins were fairly widespread, but in much smaller numbers; flocks of 25 remained throughout the period at two Louisville locations (DS, B. Bradley). American Goldfinches were down about 20% compared with their numbers last winter. Evening Grosbeaks began appearing in early December, with 17 at Fishing Creek, Pulaski County, December 5 (JEl); four at Madisonville the following day (JH); and large numbers around Kentucky Lake area (CP) and regular visitors in the Burlington area since mid-December (LMc). Hundreds were reported from southwest Louisville since December 24 and remained throughout the period (DS). The species peaked at 90-100 birds at Central Kentucky Wildlife Management Area (GR) and were still present at the end of the period; also, widespread throughout Rowan County (FB).

Correction — The White-rumped Sandpiper in Calloway County, May 7 reported in the 1983 August issue was credited to John Callahan, but instead should have been credited to Michael Miller (*Ky. Warbler*, 59: 41, 1983).

Contributors — Jane Bell (JB), Patricia Bell (PB), W. H. Brown (WHB), Fred Busroe (FB), John Callahan (JCa), K. Clay (KC), Jim Durell (JD), Roger Eberhardt (RE), Jackie Elmore (JEl), Ed Groneman (EG), James W. Hancock (JH), Wilbur Jackson (WJ), Howard Jones (HJ), Steve Kistler (SK), Frederick Loetscher (FL), Lee McNeely (LMc), Wayne Mason (WM), Robert Morris (RM), Barry Nichols (BN), Doxie Noonan (DN), B. Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BPB), Clell Peterson (CP), Ann Ramsay (AR), Lene Rauth (LR), Gary Ritchison (GR), Anne L. Stamm (S), F. W. Stamm (FS), Donald Summerfield (DS), Tom Young (TY). Other abbreviations — Tennessee Ornithological Society (TOS), Ballard Waterfowl Management Area (BWMA).

— 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY

Spring Meeting — April 27-29, 1984

The 61st annual spring meeting of the Kentucky Ornithological Society was held at Berea College, Berea, Ky. on April 27-29, 1984.

The Friday evening session was called to order by the president, Pierre Allaire. He introduced the vice-president, Fred Busroe, who presented the 6 speakers: 1) Gary Ritchison — The Blue Grosbeak in Kentucky, 2) Chris Kellner — Predatory Behavior of American Kestrels in Central Kentucky (radio telemetry), 3) William Lynch — Nesting Observations on the Turkey Vulture, 4) William McComb — Bluebird Use of Reclaimed Surface Mines, 5) Steve Bonney — Food Habits of Ruffed Grouse in the Outer Blue Grass, 6) Gail McPeek — Birds in Forest Stands, Robinson Forest.

Field trips for Saturday morning were announced. A social hour followed the meeting.

Saturday morning field trips began at 8:15 a.m. from Boone Tavern. Trip #1 led by Gary Ritchison of Eastern Kentucky University went to the Central Kentucky Wildlife Area. There was a demonstration of radio telemetry and current observations on Screech Owls, Kestrels and Cardinals. Trip #2 led by Frank Gailey of Berea College went to the top of Indian Fort Mountain. The weather was overcast but both deep forest birds (including the nesting and migratory warblers) and the low grassland species were observed in the two habitats covered. At 2:30 p.m., Mike Hurst, wildlife biologist of the Somerset Ranger District, gave a slide presentation of wildlife management in the Daniel Boone National Forest — Emphasis on Avian Species. The board of directors met at 4:00 p.m. in the Alumni Building of the college. A banquet held in Boone Tavern was followed by an excellent slide presentation of birds and other wildlife in the national parks given by Glen R. Wells, biology professor at Midway College and summer naturalist with the National Park Service.

Fred Busroe recorded the group's observations of 97 species. Six species were added Sunday morning, bringing the total to 103 species for the spring meeting.

The fall meeting will be held at Morehead on September 28-30. The members voted to hold the fall of 1985 KOS meeting at Pine Mountain State Park in order to observe the hawk migration over Cumberland Gap.

The secretary was asked to read the following recommendation from the board of directors: 'that the KOS go on record as being aganst legalization of taxidermy mounts of any accidentally killed non game birds and to support already existing federal regulations which do not allow taxidermy mounts of any birds other than game birds killed in season." The members unanimously approved the recommendation. Dr. Allaire will write a letter to the Department of Wildlife in Frankfort.

Field trips to the same two locations visited Saturday took place on Sunday morning.

There were 56 members and guests registered for the meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Kingsolver
Recording Secretary

BIRDS OBSERVED AT THE SPRING MEETING, 1984

Green-backed Heron, Wood Duck, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Broad-winged Hawk, American Kestrel, Northern Bobwhite, Sora, Killdeer, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Common Nighthawk, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Great-crested Flycatcher, Eastern Kingbird, Purple Martin, Tree Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, Red-breasted Nuthatch, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, House Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Blue-gray Gnatcatcher, Eastern Bluebird, Veery, Gray-cheeked Thrush, Swainson's Thrush, Wood Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Cedar Waxwing, Euro-

pean Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Yellow-throated Vireo, Warbling Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Red-eyed Vireo, Blue-winged Warbler, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Yellow Warbler, Chestnut-sided Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Yellow-throated Warbler, Pine Warbler, Prairie Warbler, Palm Warbler, Blackpoll Warbler, Cerulean Warbler, Black-and-White Warbler, Prothonotary Warbler, Worm-eating Warbler, Ovenbird, Northern Waterthrush, Louisiana Waterthrush, Kentucky Warbler, Common Yellowthroat, Hooded Warbler, Yellow-breasted Chat, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Rufous-sided Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Vesper Sparrow, Grasshopper Sparrow, Henslow's Sparrow, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, White-crowned Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Grackle, Brown-headed Cowbird, Northern Oriole, Purple Finch, American Goldfinch, Evening Grosbeak, House Sparrow; total species 103.

ATTENDANCE AT THE SPRING MEETING, 1984

BEREA: Frank Gailey
BOWLING GREEN: Dr. and Mrs. Blaine Ferrell, Dr. and Mrs. Herbert E. Shadowen, Mr. and Mrs. Allen R. Stickley, Jr.
CARLISLE: Wendell and Virginia Kingsolver
FRANKFORT: James Durell, Mark and Sherri Evans
HAZARD: Mr. and Mrs. D. Sandlin, Donnie Spencer
JACKSON: Dr. and Mrs. Pierre Allaire
LEXINGTON: Jayne Bolotin, Steve Bonney, Betty Day, Carrie Koontz, William McComb, Gail McPeek, Sally Wasielewski, Mr. and Mrs. James Williams
LOUISVILLE: Ralph Bates, Diane Ebel, Sue Henderson, Doxie Noonan, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. F. W. Stamm
MACEO: Mr. and Mrs. A. L. Powell
MIDWAY: Glen R. Wells
MOUNT VERNON: Anne Ramsay
MOREHEAD: Fred Busroe
MURRAY: Michael Miller, Clell Peterson
OWENSBORO: M. L. Greenwell, Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Iles, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wilson
RICHMOND: Paul Cavanagh, Chris Kellner, William Lynch, Gary Ritchison, A. L. Whitt, Jr.
SANDY HOOK: Mr. and Mrs. William Greene
STANLEY: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stevenson
FLINT, MICHIGAN: Mr. and Mrs. Arthur Ricketts

FIELD NOTES

THE BLUE GROSBEAK IN KENTUCKY

The Blue Grosbeak *(Guiraca caerulea)* has recently been expanding its range in Kentucky (Monroe, Ky. Warbler 55:23-28, 1979; Stamm, Ky. Warbler 57:71-75, 1981) and there have been many reports of sightings in the last few years. However, there are only three documented reports of Blue Grosbeaks breeding in the state (Dubke, Ky. Warbler 42:55, 1966;

Stamm and Croft, Ky. Warbler 44:23-30, 1968; Monroe, Ky. Warbler 52:39-64, 1976). During the summer of 1983 I located three Blue Grosbeak nests within the Central Kentucky Wildlife Management Area located approximately 11 miles SSE of Richmond, Madison County.

On 6 July I heard a Blue Grosbeak singing within the management area and, after observing the bird for several days, finally discovered its nest on 19 July. The nest, located about 18 inches from the ground in a small clump of poison ivy, contained one young grosbeak that appeared to be about eight or nine days old. This grosbeak subsequently fledged on 23 July. Another male was heard singing on 19 July and its nest was discovered the same day. This nest was located about three feet off the ground in a small sumac and contained three young grosbeaks about two days old. I checked this nest two days later and found it empty. On 21 July another Blue Grosbeak was observed singing and about 20 minutes later I noted three young grosbeaks flying after him. Over the next several days the adult male and female were frequently observed feeding these young grosbeaks. On 27 July I spotted the adult female flying with a snakeskin in her beak. I noted her approximate landing point and a brief search revealed a nest under construction. This nest was located about six feet off the ground in a small Catalpa. Nest construction was finished on 30 July and the first egg was laid on 31 July. Additional eggs were laid on each of the next two days. All three eggs hatched on 12 August; however, only one young grosbeak remained when I checked the nest on 14 August. This bird subsequently fledged on 25 August. In addition to the three pairs of grosbeaks already mentioned, two other pairs were also observed in the management area. Although I was not able to locate their nests, the female of one of these pairs was observed carrying insect larvae on two occasions and the other pair was observed with one young grosbeak on 25 August. It is probable, therefore, that there were at least five breeding pairs of Blue Grosbeaks within the management area. This unusual concentration of grosbeaks may have been due to the relatively large amount of suitable habitat. The management area is characterized by small woodlots interspersed with old fields and damp lowlands. This type of habitat almost perfectly matches the description of preferred Blue Grosbeak habitat as described by Terres (Aud. Soc. Encyc. of N.A. Birds, Knopf, New York, 1980), i.e., ". . . old field, overgrown with brambles, . . . , often in damp places . . ."

The Blue Grosbeak appears to have begun its movement into Kentucky in the late 1950's. Mengel (The Birds of Kentucky, A.O.U. Monogr. 3, 1965) reported a few unverified sightings in the 1930's; however, the first authenticated sighting appears to be Wyatt's (Ky. Warbler 25:55, 1949) observation of a small flock of Blue Grosbeaks near the Murray State campus on 25 April 1949. Mengel noted another sighting in 1950 in Marshall County; however, there were no further sightings until 1955 (Hancock, Ky. Warbler 32:39, 1956). The next sightings were reported in 1958 and since then Blue Grosbeak sightings have been reported nearly every spring. Only in the last few years, however, have such sightings become fairly common. Further, whereas early reports were limited to the western part of the state, sightings are now being reported as far east as Madison County and as far north as Oldham County. Summer sightings (June through August) have followed the same general pattern, i.e., an increase in the number of sightings in the last few years and more reports from the northern and eastern parts of the state.

The northward and eastward movement of the Blue Grosbeak is

certainly not limited to Kentucky. Increasing numbers have been reported in the last few years in Virginia and Maryland (Amer. Birds 36:965, 1982), Pennsylvania (Amer. Birds 35:926, 1981), Delaware and New Jersey (Amer. Birds 34:881, 1980), Iowa, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, and Ohio (Amer. Birds 34:901, 1980). Further, the first nesting of the Blue Grosbeak in New York state was reported in 1982 (Amer. Birds 36:961, 1982) and the first verified sighting of a Blue Grosbeak in Quebec was also reported in 1982 (Amer. Birds 36:958, 1982). Thus, Blue Grosbeaks appear to be extending their range throughout the central and eastern United States. The reasons for this recent expansion are not clearly understood. However, Robertson (Amer. Birds 31:1106, 1977) suggested that a long-term warming trend in the eastern United States may be contributing to the northward expansion of several "southern species", including the Blue Grosbeak. An increased availability of suitable habitat may also be contributing to this expansion. As noted previously, Blue Grosbeaks are generally found in old (abandoned) fields with numerous brushy areas. Taber and Johnston (In: Bent, Life histories of N.A. cardinals, grosbeaks, buntings, towhees, finches, sparrows, and allies, U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 237, 1968), in their discussion of the Indigo Bunting *(Passerina cyanea)*, suggested that land use practices during the past several decades have resulted in an increased availability of such habitats. Since buntings prefer such habitat, they further suggested that such practices have led to the increases in population and the range extension noted in buntings. As pointed out by Bent (1968), Indigo Buntings and Blue Grosbeaks seem to prefer similar habitats. It is possible, therefore, that the same practices that have favored Indigo Buntings may also be contributing to the increases in population and to the range extension being reported in the Blue Grosbeak. — GARY RITCHISON, Department of Biological Sciences, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond.

OBSERVATIONS OF A GREAT BLUE HERON ROOKERY

On 23 July 1983, a survey was conducted in a swamp in Ballard County, Kentucky, to determine the size and extent of a Great Blue Heron *(Ardea herodias)* rookery located during an arial survey in June. A direct count of nests and young was made during 1330 to 1600 hours (EST) using a rowboat along a series of transects through the colony.

The rookery occupied an area approximately 100 by 250 meters, in a Swamp Tupelo *(Nyssa aquatica)* — Bald Cypress *(Taxodium distichum)* swamp. Understory vegetation was absent except for an occasional Buttonbush *(Cephalanthus occidentalis)*, and submergent vegetation consisted of dense mats of Fanwort *(Cabomba caroliniana)*. Duckweeds *(Lemna* sp.) covered the water surface, and water depth averaged 0.6 to 1.0 meters.

A total of 110 nests was counted, of which 87 were occupied by young herons beginning to fledge. A total of 117 young was counted in 54 of the nests; of these, 13 nests contained one bird, 22 nests had two birds, 17 had three birds, one had four birds and one had five. The total number of young could not be accurately determined in 33 of the occupied nests due to dense foliage, however, each of these nests contained at least one nestling. Consequently, a minimum of 150 young were produced in this colony in 1983. Based on a review of documented heron colonies on file with the Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission and Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, this is the largest Great Blue Heron colony

known in the state; there has been no census data previously available concerning this rookery.

Nests consisted of shallow stick platforms located 12 to 20 meters above the water surface on live, dead or dying branches. Nests were situated in the uppermost crotches or near the ends of horizontal limbs primarily in live tupelo trees. The nest trees were easily located, despite obstructing foliage, by noting the profusion of whitewash covering their trunks. The number of nests per tree ranged from one to four. Most nests were small and flimsy, unlike those one would expect to find in a long established colony.

During the survey, a number of adult Great Blue Herons were observed foraging along the perimeters of open water ponds within the swamp, and delivering food to young in nests directly above us. Although other heron species or egrets were searched for, none were found.

A special note of thanks is extended to Mr. James Moore of Barlow, Kentucky, for providing a boat and expert guidance through the swamp. — SHERRI A. EVANS, Nongame Wildlife Program, Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Frankfort and MARC EVANS, Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission, 407 Broadway, Frankfort.

NEWS AND VIEWS

TAXIDERMY OF NONGAME BIRDS

As indicated in the minutes of the spring KOS meeting, we have collectively taken a stand against legalization of taxidermy mounts of any accidentally killed nongame birds and support existing laws regarding this matter. Although this collective opinion is important, receipt of letters from many individuals supporting this opinion are needed. Therefore, if you are opposed to legalizing taxidermy mounts of accidentally killed nongame birds, take the time to write William D. Graves, Director of Wildlife Resources, Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources, Nongame Wildlife Program, #1 Game Farm Road, Frankfort, Kentucky 40601.

MEMBER WILL BE MISSED

Emma Summerfield (Mrs. Donald) died May 1 at the age of 57. She and her husband were at the 1983 spring meeting and it was soon thereafter she learned that she had cancer. She was from Louisville, had been a KOS member for many, many years and will be missed by all of us.

MOVING?

If you are moving or know of any member who has moved or changed address, please notify the Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer in order that the mailing of The Kentucky Warbler may be carried out expeditiously. Thank you.

The Kentucky Warbler

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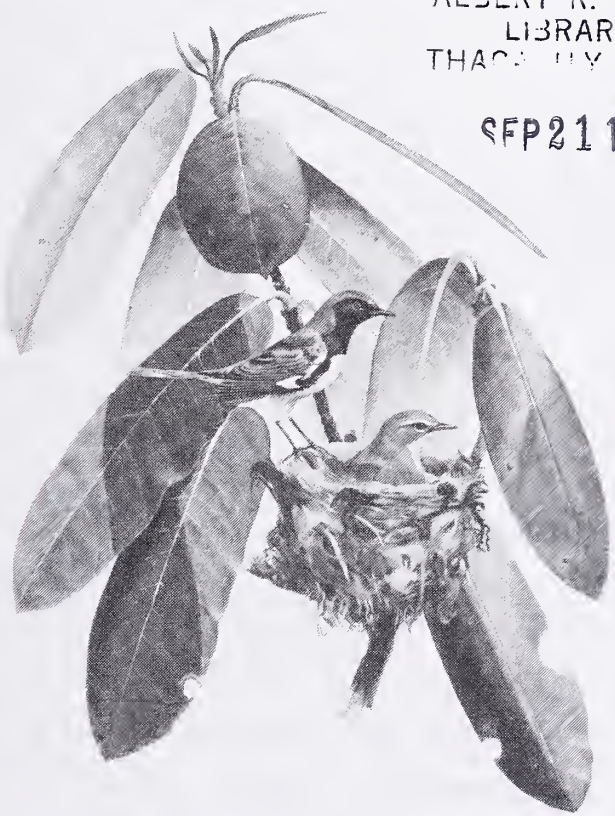

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OUR COVER

The ability of our gifted staff artist, Ray Harm, is once again displayed in his painting of the Black-throated Blue Warblers.

BREEDING BIOLOGY OF THE STARLING IN KENTUCKY

Daniel J. Twedt and Robert S. Oddo

The European Starling *(Sturnus vulgaris)* was introduced into North America near New York City about 1890 (Pearson 1917). Once established, the Starling's range expanded rapidly, and it now breeds ubiquitously over most of the United States and southern Canada. The Starling was first reported breeding in Kentucky near Lexington in 1919 (Dodge 1951), and was reported nesting near Bowling Green by 1930 (Wilson 1930).

Studies on the breeding biology of Starlings in North America have been conducted at several locations including: Arizona (Royall 1966), Colorado (DeHaven and Guarino 1970) and Ontario (Collins and DeVos 1966). The most definitive study was conducted by Kessel (1957) near Ithaca, New York. These four studies will be referred to in the text by location.

Information concerning the breeding biology of the Starling in Kentucky is sparse. In the only known detailed study of the breeding biology of Starlings in Kentucky, Lovell (1942) reported on the development of one brood reared in Louisville. The intent of our study was to obtain data on Starlings breeding in Kentucky for comparison with Starling breeding data in other areas of North America.

MATERIALS AND METHODS

In March 1981, 125 nest boxes were erected at the Western Kentucky University (WKU) Farm near Bowling Green, Kentucky. Nest boxes were made of 6 mm exterior grade plywood, inside dimensions were 19 x 20 x 25 cm, the entrance hole was 5 cm in diameter, and access for observations and banding was provided by a hinged roof. Boxes were nailed to trees, poles, or fence posts in pastures, crop fields, or hedgerows at a height of 1.5 to 3 m and no less than 7 m between boxes.

From 1 April through 1 July 1981, 62 randomly selected boxes were visited a minimum of three times per week. To determine the impact of observer visitation, the remaining 63 boxes were visited intermittently (about every 2 weeks) to determine usage of the box and to band the young. Additionally, from 11 April through 28 June 1983, the 91 intact nest boxes remaining at the WKU Farm were visited weekly. Because of other commitments in spring 1982, nest boxes were visited irregularly and infrequently. Although Starling young were banded in 1982, data collected were insufficient to warrant inclusion in this paper. Data on nest building, number of eggs, and number of nestlings were recorded during each visit. Nestlings were banded when 7 days old or older. Weather data for the nesting seasons were obtained from the Department of Geology and Geography, WKU.

RESULTS AND DISCUSSION

Nest Building

Nesting activity was apparent around many of the nest boxes almost immediately after their placement in late March 1981. Initially, "green" plant material (grasses, forbs, and flowers) was found in many of these boxes. Kessel (1957) reported that male Starlings deposit this material in nest boxes during courtship. Nest construction appeared to be weather

dependent; clear and warm conditions were conducive to intensive nest construction, whereas inclement weather inhibited nest building.

Of the 62 boxes regularly visited in 1981, 47 (76%) contained some type of nesting material. However, only 28 accumulated sufficient nesting material to be subjectively considered a "completed nest". In 1983, 56 of the 91 boxes visited contained nesting material and of these 50 were considered completed nests.

Starlings appeared to prefer nest boxes affixed to isolated trees or poles, or located on the edge of discrete, small, wooded areas within pastures. Starlings tended to avoid nest boxes located on the edge of larger more heavily wooded areas, and dense overgrown hedgerows. Squirrel damage to nest boxes along the edge of woods was widespread and may have contributed to Starling avoidance. Starlings also appeared less likely to use nest boxes associated with cropland such as corn or wheat.

Egg-Laying

Day length is the principal environmental factor timing gametogenesis in the Starling (Burger 1939). However, egg-laying dates for local regions are also affected by temperature. In New York, Kessel (1957) found that the first Starling clutch was usually initiated after the mean daily temperature was greater than 4.5°C (40°F) for at least 17 days and had remained consistently above this temperature for at least 12 days. Based on previous records, Kessel (1957) predicted that the first clutch for Starlings breeding between 35°-40° north latitude (the latitude in which Kentucky is located) would be started between 1 April and 13 April and second clutches would be initiated between 21 May and 1 June.

In 1981 the first clutch at the WKU Farm was initiated on 10 April following 20 consecutive days with mean daily temperatures above 4.5°C. In 1983 the first clutch was initiated on 7 April, following 12 consecutive days with daily mean temperatures exceeding 4.5°C. The earliest recorded clutch start for Starlings breeding in Kentucky was 30 March in Hopkins County (Hancock 1954).

In 1981, 30 clutches were initiated in 22 of the 62 boxes checked regularly (Fig. 1). The mean starting date for the 17 first clutches was 15 April (range 10-20 April). Ten second clutches had a mean starting date of 23 May (range 16-30 May). The three clutches started between 22 April and 12 May were considered intermediate clutches. In 1983, 67 clutches were initiated in 44 nest boxes (Fig. 1). Because boxes were only visited weekly in 1983, clutch starts were determined by back dating, using an egg laying rate of 1 egg per day per nest box. The latest possible start was used for first clutches and the earliest possible start was used for second clutches. The mean starting date for the 25 clutches was 13 April (range 7-21 April), and 32 second clutches had a mean starting date of 25 May (range 14 May-5 June). Ten intermediate clutches were started in 1983.

The interval between the mean date of clutch initiation for the first and second clutches was 37 days in 1981 and 41 days in 1983. This interval compares favorably with 40 days in Arizona, 39 days in Colorado, and 45 days in Ontario.

In 1981 only 50% of the nest boxes containing successful first clutches were followed by second clutches, but this figure increased to 70% in 1983. Other North American studies showed ranges from 74% nest box reuse in New York to 92% reuse in Ontario.

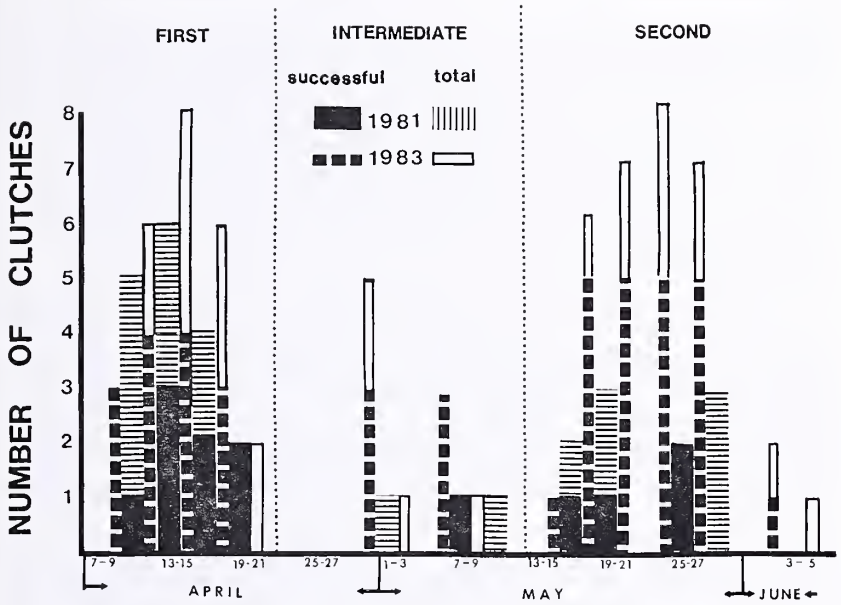

Figure 1. Starling clutch starts and successful clutches in nest boxes at the Western Kentucky University Farm, Bowling Green, Kentucky. Clutches are depicted in 3 day intervals.

In our study only two boxes containing intermediate clutches (Fig. 1) were reused. In one of these boxes the first (intermediate) clutch was started on 29 April but was destroyed before hatching. Subsequently, a second clutch was started in this box on 5 June. This was the latest clutch start during our study and is 9 days later than the previously reported latest egg-laying date (Mengel 1965).

Clutch Size

The average clutch size for the 30 clutches started in 1981 and the 67 clutches started in 1983 was 4.4 and 4.9, respectively. Lovell (1942) found an average clutch size of 4.4 (range 3 to 6) for Starlings in Kentucky.

The average size of the first clutch was only 4.2 (range 1 to 6) in 1981 but was 5.5 (range 3 to 8) in 1983. In 1981 the average size of the second clutch rose to 4.6 (range 2 to 6) but in 1983 the second clutch size dropped to 4.5 (range 1 to 6). However, for both clutch periods in both years, the modal clutch size was five, occurring in about 37% of all clutches.

The increase in clutch size between first and second clutches found in 1981 differs from most Starling breeding studies (op. cit.) in that first clutches (range 4.5 to 5.6) are usually larger than second clutches (range 4.1 to 5.2). However, DeHaven and Guarino (1970) found Colorado Starlings also had a larger second clutch.

Hatching Success

In 1981 the overall hatching success (the percentage of eggs hatched) was 62%; 69% for the first clutch and 46% for the second clutch. In 1983

the hatching success was 59%; 65% for the first clutch and 54% for the second. The hatching success for Kentucky Starlings in our study is substantially lower than in other North American studies. Hatching success for both first and second clutches was between 82% and 84% in Colorado and Arizona. In New York and Ontario, as well as in our study, first clutches had better hatching success than second clutches. However, in the New York and Ontario studies hatching success was much higher, 91% and 92% for first clutches and 80% and 83% for second clutches, respectively.

Nesting Success

Nesting success was the percentage of nests from which at least one young was fledged. In our study, a bird was considered fledged when fully feathered and banded. In 1981, 47% of the first nests and 40% of the second nests were successful. Similarly, first nests in 1983, with 64% success, were more successful than the 59% success of second nests. Even with the liberal definition of a fledgling used in our study, overall nesting success in Kentucky was considerably less (43% in 1981 and 61% in 1983) than the nesting success of Starlings in New York (79%), Ontario (71%), and Colorado (72%). Only Arizona Starlings with 48% nesting success, had nesting success as poor as did Kentucky Starlings.

In successful nests, 3.4 young and 4.0 young were fledged from first and second clutches, respectively, in 1981. In 1983, 3.9 and 3.4 young were fledged from first and second clutches. This number of young fledged per successful nest is similar to that of other areas. The number of first and second clutch Starlings fledged was 3.8 and 3.3 in Colorado, 4.7 and 3.6 in Ontario, and 4.5 and 3.0 in New York. Arizona Starlings, however, only fledged 2.5 and 2.2 young per successful nest.

The increased number of clutches, larger clutch size, and greater nesting success in 1983, as opposed to 1981, is believed to be a result of the following: (1) more boxes were checked regularly (91 vs 62) in 1983, (2) boxes not utilized in 1981 (e.g., along heavily wooded areas) were moved to locations thought to be more conducive to Starling breeding (e.g., in pastures) in 1983, and (3) boxes were put out just before the nesting season in 1981, thereby possibly attracting less fit first year breeders.

Disturbance created when visiting nest boxes seemed to have little effect on the nesting success of Kentucky Starlings. In 1981, 48 birds in 13 clutches fledged from boxes that were visited three times per week and 46 birds in 12 clutches were banded and presumably fledged from boxes visited intermittently.

Mortality

Predation was probably a major cause of egg and nestling mortality. However, non-viable eggs were noted in several nest boxes. A number of breeding colonies of Common Grackles *(Quiscalus quiscula)* were in the vicinity and grackles were often observed around nest boxes. Grackles have been reported to eat eggs and nestlings of a number of bird species (Bent 1965). Additionally, in 1983 a few nest boxes were torn from their anchorage and found on the ground with their contents destroyed. Raccoons *(Procyon lotor)* or opossums *(Didelphis virginiana)* were probably responsible for this damage. Abandonment was probably another major cause of mortality but was difficult to distinguish from predation. Kessell (1957) reported that male Starlings will sometimes remove eggs when the female deserts the nest.

Royall (1966) found overheated nest boxes caused egg mortality. Although most of the boxes in our study were in shady locations, a few boxes placed on fence posts or telephone poles received little shade. Nevertheless, four of the boxes with little or no shade held six successful clutches, indicating little adverse effect on nesting success.

Red fowl mites *(Dermanyssus gallinae)* were present in several boxes during both years of our study. DeHaven and Guarino (1970) indicated these mites may have caused Colorado Starlings to abandon second clutches. Although the relationship between mite infestation and nesting success was not statistically evaluated for Kentucky Starlings, we believe, as did Royall (1966), that mites appeared to have little effect on nesting success.

Band Recoveries

Four Starlings banded as nestlings during our study have thus far been recovered. These Starlings were banded on 12 May 1981. All 4 were recaptured at the WKU Farm near Bowling Green; 2 on 16 December 1982 and one each on 3 and 4 February 1983. These recaptures are significant in that they confirm that Starlings hatched in Kentucky may subsequently winter within the state.

SUMMARY

A nest box study conducted near Bowling Green, Kentucky, supplemented the limited data on Starling breeding in Kentucky. Thirty clutches were laid in 62 nest boxes visited three times per week from 1 April to 1 July 1981 and 67 clutches were laid in 91 nest boxes visited weekly from 11 April to 28 June 1983.

First clutches were started between 7 and 21 April and second clutches were started between 14 May and 5 June. The average clutch size was 4.4 and 4.9 in 1981 and 1983, respectively. The modal clutch size for all clutches in both years was five.

Hatching success for Kentucky Starlings and nesting success were considerably lower than in most other North American studies. However, similar to most other studies, 3.7 young fledged from successful Starling nests in Kentucky.

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THE SPRING SEASON, 1984

Anne L. Stamm

It was a cool and wet spring. March was cooler than normal by almost five degrees and April by about two degrees. Precipitation in March was slightly less than normal, while in April it was almost two inches above normal. Rainfall was unusually heavy in May, with much flooding in most of the state. The Kentucky River at Frankfort was 10 feet above flood stage on May 8. Bridges were washed out in Pulaski County and US 27 was partially blocked. Hopkinsville was surrounded by water. The Ballard Waterfowl Management Area was closed in mid-May due to high water. The Mississippi and Ohio Rivers, bordering western Kentucky, were out of their banks and many fields were flooded and roads impassible. The heavy rainfall reduced shorebird habitat in some areas for a period of time and some ground nests were undoubtedly destroyed. Cliff Swallows usually start nesting activities along the dams in western Kentucky soon after arriving, but few birds were noted there in mid-May.

Migration was late. There were no major hawk flights reported. There seemed to be a "good movement" of passerines in late April and again between May 1 and 12, although some observers felt there were no "waves" this spring.

Birds new to the state are always of special interest. A *California Gull* (well described and photographed) was seen in March and in May along Kentucky Dam. Other rarities included Eared Grebes, a Red-necked Grebe, a Lesser Black-backed Gull and a Great Black-backed Gull.

Some nesting data were included in spring reports which will be incorporated in the summary of the summer period. All observers who locate nests are encouraged to fill out nest-cards and send them to the writer. Blank cards are available, if needed.

Loons through Bitterns — There were 12 reports of Common Loons, nine of which were of single birds (m.ob.); three at Barkley Dam, April

6 were the earliest (DN, LR); seven at Cave Run Lake, April 8 (JEl); and two at Barkley Dam, May 16 (DS, S, FS); and the latest observation at Kentucky Dam, May 28 (BM, BBC). Pied-billed Grebe numbers were at or above normal in the Danville area (FL), but low elsewhere, with high counts of only five birds at Petersburg and Lake Pewee (LMc, JH, respectively); Horned Grebes were scarce. An Eared Grebe was present at McElroy Lake, Warren County, May 10 (BPB, WM), two there on May 12-13 (WM) and one May 16 (JC). A Red-necked Grebe appeared on Laurel River Lake, March 7 and 21 (JEl), also observed March 8 (DN, JC). Fair numbers of Double-crested Cormorants were reported with the earliest at Uniontown Boat Ramp, March 4 (BPB, with R. Cassell); three at Lake Barkley, April 6 (DN, LR), singles at two locations in Fulton County, April 30 (JEl); but a flock of 23 at Petersburg, May 5 (LMc); one at McAlpine Dam, May 7 (JC) and two there May 29 (BPB). The only Least Bittern reported was a dead bird found by TV engineers in Ballard County about May 19 or 20 (*fide* BPB).

Herons — Normal numbers of Great Blue Herons were seen (m. ob.). Single Great Egrets were present at Barkley Dam, April 6 (DN, LR), Kentucky Dam, April 16 (LR), and Mayfair Basins, Louisville, April 19 (DN); two near Lake #9 and three at Reelfoot National Wildlife Refuge (hereafter Reelfoot NWR), Fulton County, April 30 (JEl); ten at the latter location and five near Lake #9 on May 18 (S, DS, FS); approximately 30 in Hickman Bottoms, adjacent to Lake #9, May 27 (BBC). The only Snowy Egret was one feeding with Great Egrets in Reelfoot NWR, May 18, (S, DS, FS). There were only two reports of adult Little Blue Herons; one near Clinton, Hickman County, April 30 (JEl); one flying over wooded treetops north of Hickman, May 17 (DS). Cattle Egrets were widely distributed and appeared in eight counties: Fulton, Hickman, Marshall, Caldwell, Simpson, Jefferson, Mercer and Fayette (m. ob.) from April 22-May 27. Most sightings were of one to seven birds, but 31 were seen below Kentucky Dam, May 9 (CP). Black-crowned Night Herons began arriving in the Louisville area March 17-25 (BPB, DN, BBC), but numbers increased to 130 on May 30 at the Falls of the Ohio (LR); only one sighted in Fulton County, May 18 (S. FS, DS). Yellow-crowned Night Herons were reported from only three locations: eight at Lexington (MF), five in Fulton County (BBC); and one at Shippingport Island (LR).

Waterfowl — A single "crippled" White-fronted Goose was seen at Ballard Waterfowl Management Area (hereafter BWMA) on April 7 (DN, LR). The majority of Canada Geese left in February, but small groups of 19-25 were present at Mayfair Basins and at Laurel Lake in mid-March (DN, JC) and 27 near Lake #9, May 18 (S, DS, FS) and 25 there May 27 (BBC).

The more unusual records included 90 Northern Shovelers in Union County, March 4 (BPB, with R. Cassell); a count of 100+ Redheads and 150 Ring-necked Ducks on McDougal Creek Lake, Larue County, March 11 (JEl) and 91 of the latter species at Lake Pewee, March 26 (JH). A Greater Scaup was present at Uniontown Boat Ramp, March 4 (BPB). A rather late Lesser Scaup was seen at Oldham County Park, May 7 and 8 (DN, JC, respectively). Oldsquaws staged a good flight with one flock of 25 and one of 17 above Barkley Dam, March 31 (BPB) and seven the week of April 3 (A. Heilman *fide* BPB). A Common Goldeneye lingered at Kentucky Lake until April 15 (CP) and a pair of Buffleheads at Hays

Kennedy Park, Louisville, May 8 and a female at Pulaski County Park, May 9 were also late in departing (LR, JEl, respectively). Red-breasted Mergansers were widespread, with a maximum of 200-300 in flight over Kentucky Lake, April 1 (BM, DN); and the 30 at Cave Run Lake, April 8 deserves mention (JEl). A count of 79 Ruddy Ducks at Lake Pewee, March 19 was the high for the state (JH) and the 20 at Uniontown Dam on March 4 were also of interest (BPB, with R. Cassell); a single bird was still present at Lake Nevin, Bullitt County, May 4 (JEl).

Vultures, Hawks — A flock of 17 Turkey Vultures was seen in east Jefferson County on March 25 (S, FS); and 51 in Boone County, May 5 during an all-day count (LMc). Single Ospreys were reported in April from the following counties: Taylor, Pulaski (JEl), Fulton (DN, LR), Jefferson (BPB); and two in Ballard County, May 17 (S, DS, FS). Good numbers of Mississippi Kites were reported: an adult perched on a tree on the outskirts of BWMA, May 17, a flock of eight flying low over a field east of the levee in southwest Fulton County and four a few miles north of the latter sighting, May 17 (DS, S, FS); two over Wickcliffe, Ballard County, two over Chalk Bluff Road, just south of Columbus and 13 in a loose flock along the Mississippi, about two miles south of Columbus, Hickman County, May 26 (BBC) and one over Reelfoot NWR, Fulton County, May 27 (BBC). Two sub-adult Bald Eagles were seen at Green River State Park, Taylor County, March 4 and one there March 11 (JEl); an adult at Wolf Creek Dam, March 23 (LR); and approximately 25 in Hickman Bottoms, Fulton County, April 1 (BPB). Fifteen Northern Harriers were reported from Warren County westward to Fulton County between March 20 and April 7 (m. ob.). Red-shouldered Hawks continued to be scarce. A flight of nine Broad-winged Hawks was seen at Burlington, April 22 and an immature at Boone County Cliffs being harassed by a Cooper's Hawk, May 5 (LMc). Single Rough-legged Hawks were recorded at the Henry/Oldham County line, March 7 (JC); Jefferson County, March 16 (DN) and near Gilbertsville, Livingston County, April 6 (DN, LR).

Rails through Cranes — Four King Rails were heard calling (two were seen) in a nearby marshy area of Reelfoot NWR, May 27 (BBC). One to two Sora Rails were reported from four locations, with the earliest at Bowling Green, April 26 (WM), and another two days later at Central Wildlife Refuge (KOS); Louisville and Anchorage records May 7-16 (BPB, R. Schott *fide* G. Adams, respectively). A Purple Gallinule at Mammoth Cave National Park on a small pond, April 28 was noteworthy (JB, PB). Good concentrations of American Coots included *760* at Lake Pewee, March 26 (JH) and 300 upstream from Louisville, April 3 (JY); last reported on May 6 at Lake Pewee with 39 birds. Small flocks of Sandhill Cranes were still moving northward on March 4: 28 at Glasgow (RS), 19 at Green River Lake State Park (JEl) and a flock of 14 and one of 12 over southwest Oldham County (JC); 96 over Grahampton, March 14 (BN) and eight at Mayfair Basins, March 24 (DN).

Shorebirds — Shorebird migration was rather spotty with largest concentrations in western Kentucky. Noteworthy Lesser Golden Plover concentrations included *900* in Hickman Bottoms, April 1 (BPB), *500* on April 7 (DN, LR); 200+ just west of Hickman, April 30 (JEl) and 50 still present just above the Tennessee line, May 9 (CP). Greater Yellowlegs began arriving in small numbers at Louisville and Bowling Green between March 17 and 23 (BPB, WM), a maximum of 75+ west of Hick-

man, April 30 (JEl) ; numerous in Maceo Bottoms, Daviess County, May 9 (AP) and also present near Frazer, Wayne County, May 15 (JEl). Lesser Yellowlegs were widespread with concentrations of 150 in Hickman Bottoms, April 1 (BPB) and *300* west of Hickman, April 30 (JEl). Solitary Sandpipers were quite evident in Boone County (LMc). A few Willets were reported: nine below McAlpine Dam, May 7 (JC) and one below Kentucky Dam, May 9 (CP). There were five Upland Sandpipers in fields of eastern Jefferson-western Oldham Counties, April 21-22 (BPB, m. ob.) and several at Bowling Green, May 12 (WM). Two Ruddy Turnstones in breeding plumage were seen below Kentucky Dam, May 9 (CP), several at the transient lakes, May 12 (WM), two in bottomland of Obion Creek at SR 123, Hickman County, May 26 (JG, BBC) and three at Smithland Dam, Livingston County, May 27 (BPB, BBC). A single Sanderling, a rare spring transient, was observed below Kentucky Dam, May 9 (CP) and three in Fulton County, May 26 and 27 (BPB, BBC). A single Semipalmated Sandpiper was present on April 22 in western Oldham County (BPB), but concentrations of *300-400* were on Mud Creek, Fulton County, May 26 and *200* were there on May 27 (BBC) ; a White-rumped Sandpiper was with the flock on the latter date (BPB, BBC). A high count of 350 Pectoral Sandpipers was reported from Hickman Bottoms, April 1 (BPB). Dunlin sightings included one along the Jefferson Freeway, May 7 (DN), four to five at three Warren County locations May 8-12 (JC, BPB, WM) ; 30 on riffraff on the lake side of Kentucky Dam and 15 below the Dam, May 9 (CP). A count of 45 Common Snipe was made in a marshy area on the outskirts of Bowling Green, April 10 (WM). The following Short-billed Dowitchers were seen and call notes heard: 13 near Harrodsburg, Mercer County, May 12 (JEl) ; 15 in Maceo Bottoms, May 9 (AP with P. Roco) ; and two in Warren County, May 16 (JC).

Gulls through Terns — Bonaparte's Gulls were fairly well distributed, with high counts of *100* at Cave Run Lake (JEl) and *275* from Clark Bridge to below the Falls of the Ohio on April 8 (BPB) ; latest sighting — three birds — below Kentucky Dam, May 9 (CP). Ring-billed Gulls continued to be widespread with high counts of 100 at Green River Lake, March 4 (JEl) ; 300 at the Falls of the Ohio, March 14, 300 at Kentucky Dam and 500 at Barkley Dam, March 31 (BPB) ; some 200 still present above Kentucky Dam, May 16 (S, DS, FS) ; and 13 remained at Kentucky Dam, May 28 (DN, BBC), and one was at the Falls of the Ohio, May 29 (BPB). A Thayer's Gull in first-year plumage was present at Barkley Dam, April 6 (DN, LR). A *California Gull* was seen and photographed at Kentucky Dam, Livingston County, March 31 (BPB) and another, or possibly the same bird, was seen with a flock of Ring-billed Gulls and a few Herring Gulls above the Kentucky Dam, May 16 ; all details were noted and documented (S, DS, FS). This is a new species for the state. Other unusual sightings, which were documented, included a *Lesser Black-backed Gull* at Barkley Dam, April 1 (BM, DN, M. Monroe) ; a first-year *Great Black-backed Gull* at the Falls of the Ohio, March 14-16 (DN, BPB) ; also observed on the latter date by Lene Rauth and John Callahan. The latter bird remained about a week (DN). Caspian Terns were first reported on April 1 at Louisville along the Ohio River (JC, BPB) ; the singles at Barkley Dam (BM) and Kentucky Dam Village State Park on May 28 were the latest encountered (DN, BBC). Few observers mentioned the Forster's Terns, but reports indicated sightings on May 7 at McAlpine Dam (LR, JC), Pulaski County Park (JEl) and two near Hickman, May 27 (DN,

BBC). The three Common Terns in Marshall County, May 28, were the only ones reported (DN, BBC). Four Least Terns were present in southwestern Fulton County, May 18 (DS, S, FS); three over flooded bottomland of Obion Creek, Hickman County, May 26 (BBC); two at Lake #9, May 27 and four at Smithland Dam, May 28 (BBC). The migration of Black Terns was better than it has been for some years: one at Oldham Park, April 7 (DN, with Dr. Noonan), but 10 there, May 6 (BPB); six near Woodburn, Warren County, May 8 (JC); one at McElroy Lake, May 10 (BPB); a total of 34 at two locations in Hickman County, May 26, about 52 at Smithland Dam, singles at Lake Barkley and Kentucky Dams, May 28 (BBC).

Cuckoos through Swallows — Yellow-billed Cuckoos were late in arriving and were scarce. Black-billed Cuckoos were also scarce. Common Nighthawks appeared to be in low numbers in many areas and Whip-poor-wills showed a decrease in the Bedford area, Trimble County (JY). Ruby-throated Hummingbirds were "difficult to locate throughout the spring" in Boone County (LMc), but common on vetch along the roadsides and fields in Ballard, Hickman and Fulton Counties, May 16 (S *et al.*) and May 26 and 27 (BPB, BBC); also good numbers in Daviess County (AP). A single Yellow-bellied Flycatcher was seen at Oldham County Park, May 7 (DN); one or two at Louisville, May 14, 19 and 31 (BPB); and one at the Land Between the Lakes, May 28 (BM). A number of the uncommon Alder Flycatchers were seen and heard: singles on Surrey Hill Farm, Louisville, on five dates between May 14-30, three on May 21 and two on May 31 (BPB); one at Grahampton, Meade County, May 10 (BN); and one at WKWMA, McCracken County, May 26 (BBC). Least Flycatchers were late in arriving and none were seen on field trips at Berea, April 28 and 29 (KOS); present at Madisonville from May 1-15 (JH) and at Louisville from May 6-25 (DN and BPB). A flock of 25 Eastern Kingbirds was seen on a ploughed field in Bedford, May 8-9 (JY). Purple Martins arrived at Somerset, March 15 (JEl), at Louisville, March 16 (DN) and Bowling Green, March 17 (WM); a colony of 150 to 200 in Ballard County, May 17 (S, DS, FS). Tree Swallows were on schedule and high counts included 200+ at Pulaski County Park, April 10 (JEl) and 200 at Hays Kennedy Park, May 4 (S, FS); all other swallow species arrived later than normal and were in low numbers (m. ob.).

Crows through Thrushes — Three Fish Crows were reported and each in different locations: the one in Trigg County, March 10 was unusual (CP), another at Hickman Bottoms, April 1 (BPB), and one on the outskirts of BWMA, May 17 (DS). Most reports of Red-breasted Nuthatches were of single birds, but eight were found at Laurel River Lake, March 7 (JEl); one still present at Danville, May 10 (FL). Bewick's Wrens were still scarce, but it was encouraging to find one to three birds at the following locations: Land Between the Lakes area, two places at Murray (CP), one in Madisonville (JH) and at Elizabethtown (GE). The reports of Sedge Wrens were interesting; one in a weedy field at Bowling Green, May 3 and three in a field just outside Warren County on May 10 (WM); also observed at Lexington (MF). Only two reports of Marsh Wrens were received: one in Oldham County and two birds in Jefferson County, May 6 and 14, respectively (BPB). Twenty-five to thirty Ruby-crowned Kinglets were seen at Cave Hill Cemetery, April 23 (DN); several lingered until May 10 at Madisonville (JH) and at various places in Boone County

(LMc). Good increases were noted in the numbers of Eastern Bluebirds. Veerys were widespread and more common than usual at Danville (FL). Grey-cheeked Thrushes passed through in good numbers and Swainson's Thrushes were "abundant" at Bowling Green (WM), "more than usual" at Danville (FL) and "common in migration" in Boone County (LMc). Wood Thrushes continued their decline in the Danville area (FL) and in some areas in the Louisville region. (S).

Pipits through Vireos — Water Pipits were present in small numbers from March 17 through May 2, with the largest group — two flocks totaling 37 birds, May 1 — on the Oldham/Jefferson County line (DN). Spring migrant Cedar Waxwings began appearing at Fort Wright on March 24 (EG) and at Louisville, April 12 (S), with small groups of 25-30 birds; greatest number between May 10-18 (m. ob.). There were 13 sightings of Loggerhead Shrikes. Two Bell's Vireo's at West Kentucky WMA on May 26 were the only ones reported (BBC). White-eyed, Solitary and Warbling Vireos began arriving later than usual and were present in good numbers at Danville (FL). a few Philadelphia Vireos were reported.

Warblers — There were mixed comments about the warbler migration, but as a whole, migration was late and best movements occurred April 26-28 and May 9-12. Orange-crowned Warblers were recorded in Jefferson County Forest, April 15 (DN), Fish Pond Road, Fulton County, April 30 (JEl) and several at Louisville, Jefferson County in late April to early May, with the latest on May 13 (BPB). Nashville Warblers passed through in good numbers at Danville (FL). A Magnolia Warbler along Middle Creek Road, Boone County, May 26 was late for there (LMc). Good "waves" of Cape May Warblers were seen in the Bowling Green area from May 1-12 (WM) and 10 were spotted May 9 in Pulaski County Park (JEl). Two Black-throated Blue Warblers were reported: one April 30 at Joe Creason Park, Louisville (J. Lewis *fide* BPB and later by others) and one at Boone County Cliffs, May 5 (LMc). Good numbers of Blackpolls were present in the Bowling Green area May 1-12 (WM) and "most evident" at Burlington May 9-10 (LMc). The Cerulean Warbler continued to be scarce in some locations and was seen for the first time in three years in the Fork Knox area (JG). A Swainson's Warbler in southwest Fulton County, May 18 was of interest (DS, S, FS). Three Connecticut Warblers were reported in the Maceo area on May 5 (M. Brown *fide* AP) and two in the Louisville area, May 14 (BPB). Another uncommon transient, the Mourning Warbler, was present during May in Carlisle County (MF), Hopkins County (JH) and two locations in Jefferson County (BPB, JB, PB). Hooded Warblers were "remarkably scarce" in the Danville area (FL). A Wilson's Warbler in the Murray area on May 27 was a rather late straggler (BM). Fair numbers of Canada Warblers were reported from May 1 through 28 (m. ob.).

Grosbeaks through Sparrows — The main flight of Rose-breasted Grosbeaks appeared to be April 28 through May 10 (m. ob.), with several birds at local feeders at Louisville (DN) and at Valley Station. The birds at the latter station fed with Evening Grosbeaks from May 5 to May 20 (DS). Normal numbers of Blue Grosbeaks were reported from Pulaski to Calloway and Carlisle Counties (m. ob.). Indigo Bunting migration was evident in the Murray area with flocks of 10-20 birds from mid-April to early May (CP). There were more Dickcissels than for the past few years with the majority in western Kentucky (m. ob.); two on May 3 in the Danville

area were the first recorded there since 1980 (FL). The rare Bachman's Sparrow was seen near New Concord, Calloway County, May 28 (BBC). A single Lark Sparrow was seen on a Louisville farm, May 5 (BPB, DN, D. Ebel). Large flocks of Savannah Sparrows moved through the Western Kentucky University Farm, April 21 (WM). A male Lapland Longspur in Hickman Bottoms, April 7 was a late straggler (LR). A flock of 30 Bobolinks at Bedford on April 30 was the first reported (JY); the majority of the migrants passed through the first week of May (m. ob.). A Western Meadowlark was seen and heard in Lyon County, May 16 (S, DS). About 15 Brewer's Blackbirds were observed in Hickman and Mud Creek Bottoms, Fulton County, April 1 (BPB) and 20 in the same County, April 7 (DN, LR). Northern (Baltimore) Orioles began arriving in Maceo on April 26 (AP) and were "abundant" in Barren and Warren Counties May 6-12 (WM). There seemed to be quite an influx of Purple Finches in central and northern Kentucky April 28-May 1 (LMc, S. DN), with a total of 56 in the Outer Loop area, Louisville on the latter date (DN). House Finches continued to be common and widespread. About 15 Pine Siskins were present at a feeding station at Valley Station throughout the period (DS); some movement noticed at Eubank May 9-10 when 40 were present on the latter date and last recorded there May 16 (JEl with D. Elmore). Evening Grosbeaks were present at several feeders in the Valley Station area throughout the period and peaked at 100+ on April 2 at one feeder (P. Steilberg *fide* DS) and 40 at another, where they remained until May 22 (DS); also common in Boone County throughout the period and last recorded there on May 13 (LMc).

Special thanks are due the members who sent detailed notes of their findings. These reports would not be possible without the continued cooperation of our members. Information on the Fall Migration (August, September, October and November) should reach the writer no later than December 7. As always, all unusual sight records and birds out of season must be documented at the time of the observation.

Contributors — Jane Bell (JB), Patricia Bell (PB), John Callahan (JS), C. V. Covell (CV), Jackie Elmore (JEl), George Elliott (GE), Michael Flynn (MF), John H. Getgood (JG), Ed Groneman (EG), James W. Hancock (JH), Frederick Loetscher (FL), Lee McNeely (LMc), Wayne Mason (WM), Burt L. Monroe, Jr. (BM), Robert Morris (RM), Barry Nichols (BN), Doxie Noonan (DN), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BPB), Clell Peterson (CP), A. L. Powell (AP), Lene Rauth (LR), Anne L. Stamm (S), F. W. Stamm (FS), Russell Starr (RS), Donald Summerfield (DS), John Young (JY). Other abbreviations — Beckham Bird Club (BBC), Ballard Waterfall Management Area (BWMA), Kentucky Ornithological Society (KOS), Reelfoot National Wildlife Refuge (Reelfoot NWR), West Kentucky Wildlife Management Area (WKWMA).

—9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222.

KENTUCKY'S 1984 EAGLE CENSUS

James S. Burell and Anne L. Stamm

The 1984 Kentucky mid-winter eagle census surpassed any of the previous annual inventories. The number of migrant Bald Eagles that winter in the state vary from year to year and perhaps this depends largely on the food supply and weather conditions.

The national count period this year ranged from January 2-16, with the target date January 5 and a back-up date of January 7. Fortunately, at least 73% of the eagle counters checked the territories assigned to them on January 5-7.

The January census indicated a total of 221 Bald Eagles: 142 adults and 75 immatures, with four of unknown age. This represents an increase of 63% over the January 1983 census. Also, the population along the Mississippi River showed an increase of 57 Bald Eagles over 1983. Some gains were noted at the Land Between the Lakes, the Ohio River, Wickliffe to Golconda, and Cave Run Lake. There was a slight decrease at Lake Cumberland and at Dale Hollow. A total of 11 Golden Eagles was also sighted (see Table 1).

TABLE I. Summary of the 1984 Kentucky Eagle Census January 2-16, 1984

Location	Bald Eagles A	I	U	T	Golden Eagles A	I	U	T
Mississippi River	43	29		72	5			5
Land Between the Lakes	34	20		54				
Ohio River, Wickliffe to Carrsville (N. Livingston)	30	13	4	47			3	3
Carrsville to Owensboro	2	1		3				
Owensboro to Meldahl Dam	3	1		4				
Rough, Nolin, Green, Barren River Lakes	2	1		3				
Kentucky River	1			1				
Casey County					1			1
Dale Hollow	6	2		8				
Cave Run and Grayson Lake	3	3		6				
Lake Cumberland, Big South Fork	14	2		16	2			2
East Kentucky Lakes (5)				0				
Magoffin County		1		1*				
Laurel Lake	4	2		6				
Mammoth Cave National Park				0				
Cumberland Gap				0				
TOTALS	142	75	4	221	8		3	11

*Eagle found shot, died three days later; believed to be of the Cave Run flock.

The weather was extremely cold when most counts were taken. Reelfoot Lake was frozen and this condition caused many of the eagles to move into Kentucky where there was open water on the Ohio and Mississippi Rivers, although scattered ice flows were present. Smaller bodies of water such as Salt River and Cave Run were frozen, whereas, Buckhorn, Green River and Martin's Fork Lakes were partially frozen.

In some areas the food supply was scarce and in others, where large bodies of water were open, some fish, ducks and geese were available.

Eagles were noted feeding on two dead deer, which were frozen and lying on the ice on Cave Run Lake. Also, eagles were seen feeding on dead ducks and geese on Goose Pond Lake. Another source of prey was dead shad.

At some locations more than one party surveyed the lake or river. Where this took place, the marked maps were carefully screened to avoid duplications. It may be well to mention that upper Lake Cumberland was not censused.

In addition to the eagles censused, the following hawks were tabulated: one Osprey (no details), six Northern Harriers, four Cooper's Hawk's, two Red-shouldered Hawks, 80 Red-tailed Hawks, 61 American Kestrels, and 14 unidentified hawks.

There were 41 parties in the field and at least 65 participants. The census was coordinated by James S. Durell, assistant director of Wildlife Management of the Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Department. Groups participating were: Kentucky Fish and Wildlife Department, Kentucky Ornithological Society, Tennessee Valley Authority, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, U.S. Forest Service and a few individuals affiliated with other groups.

— Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife, Frankfort 40601 and 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222.

NEWS AND VIEWS

BELATED REMEMBRANCE

Howard Rollin, a widely known bird artist and longtime member of the K.O.S., died 11 November 1983 at the age of 74. This native of Colorado will be fondly remembered by the K.O.S.

FALL K.O.S. MEETING

Our fall meeting will be held at Morehead State University 28-30 September 1984. Mark your calendar now and plan on sharing summer experiences with fellow birders while stalking the elusive fall migrants. Those of you that would like to present a paper or share birding information at the Friday evening meeting, please notify Dr. Fred Busroe, Department of Biological and Environmental Sciences, Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky 40351.

The Kentucky Warbler

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OUR COVER

Our thanks go to Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., for the excellent photograph of Sabine's Gull (see the Field Note).

THE NESTING SEASON, SUMMER 1984

Anne L. Stamm

It was rather a strange summer weatherwise. The month of June was warmer than normal and July was cooler than usual. June was dry, hot and humid throughout the state. In the Louisville area less than an inch of rain fell during the month and tied a record as the second driest June. June's drought continued into July until July 4 when a heavy thunderstorm dumped a total of 5.33 inches of rain in the Louisville area which surpassed the 3.76 inches normal for the entire month. Additional rains brought the month's total to almost seven inches which was quite a contrast from the month of June. The rainfall in early July brought cooler temperatures and on July 8 the mercury hit record lows of 50 degrees in Lexington, Louisville and the northern half of the state. Record lows were also set at Covington on July 19. Cold fronts on July 8 and 19 triggered the southward movement of small numbers of shorebirds.

The summer reports contained an increasing number and encouraging amount of data on the breeding activities of the birds in Kentucky. Observers apparently spent more time in the field this period than in most summers. A new nesting colony of Cattle Egrets was found as well as colonies of Least Terns. New Bank and Barn Swallow colonies were reported. A nest of Common Ravens added much interest to the season's report. Some species showed increases and some decreases. Below are listed the interesting records for the summer season of 1984.

Herons — Great Blue Herons were reported during June in Boone and Hopkins Counties, with a high of seven birds on June 15 at Goose Pond in the latter County (LMc, JH, respectively); wanderers were present during July at East Bend (LMc), Louisville (S) and Somerset (JEl). Post-breeding Great Egrets usually appear at the Falls of the Ohio in late summer, but one was present on June 6 and a high of seven were there on July 27 (LR); several remained throughout July (S); also a single bird was seen over Lake Pewee, June 8 (JH). A single Snowy Egret was present at the Falls of the Ohio on July 8 (JEl, LR) and it remained throughout July (LR, m.ob.). An adult Little Blue Heron was seen at Ballard Waterfowl Management Area (hereafter BWMA) on July 21 (DN, LR); an immature was at the Falls of the Ohio on July 28 (BN, with S. Washburn) and still there July 31 (DN). Approximately 20 Cattle Egrets were seen "roosting in willows along the Mississippi River in western Fulton County" on June 17. Some birds appeared to be tugging at twigs as if interested in nesting (BPB, BN). A Cattle Egret rookery in a stand of black willows at Island No. 9, Fulton County, containing 55 active nests with young was found during the first three days of August by personnel of the Kentucky Nongame Wildlife Program in cooperation with the Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission (SAE, Brian Anderson, M. Evans, Richard Hannan, Lynda Andrews and Ron Cicerello). This rookery was in the same location as were the 20 birds seen on June 17 and is the first Cattle Egret rookery reported in Kentucky. (A single nest of Cattle Egrets had been found in 1981 in a Black-crowned Night Heronry by Richard Lowe.) Green-backed Herons were scarce in some areas, particularly in Owensboro (RI) and along some streams in the Louisville parks (S); present throughout the

period at East Bend, Petersburg, and various ponds in Boone County (LMc); 20 recorded on 10 June counts in Hopkins County (JH). The only reports of Black-crowned Night Herons came from the Falls of the Ohio where on 13 July 143 adults and 68 immatures had been counted (LR), but by July 31 only about 40 could be seen (S, FS, LR). At least four nests of Yellow-crowned Night Herons were found in Lexington (MF); three birds present at Elk Creek, Hopkins County, June 19, may have been breeding birds (JH). Single adults were at the following locations: along the shore of Shippingport Island, June 27 (LR), the Falls of the Ohio, July 8 (JEl), along a wooded edge of a bike trail near Lexington Road, Louisville, July 15 (WB); an immature and one adult on South Fork Creek, Glasgow, July 9 (WM); and an immature at Big Pond Sanctuary, Grayson County, July 9 (KC).

Waterfowl—A pair of Canada Geese nested at East Bend, Boone County, and produced four young (LMc). Three broods of Wood Ducks were raised at Petersburg and one at East Bend (LMc). The Corps of Engineers placed Wood Duck nest boxes around Rough River Lake and as a result of the project some 35 Wood Ducks were seen at various parts of the lake (KC).

Raptors—Two nests of Turkey Vultures were found in Madison County: one nest fledged two birds and one fledged one. (Wm. Lynch *fide* GR); a nest with two eggs was at Bald Point, Boone County, May 5 (LMc); a group of 17 at Petersburg, June 4 (LMc); and a flock of seven in Henry County, June 3 (S, FS). A few Osprey sightings were of interest: singles at Skaggs Creek, Barren River Reservoir, near Brown's Ford in Allen County, June 9, 25 and July 23 (WM). Nesting of the Mississippi Kite was indicated at BWMA when two groups of four birds each, one with two recently-fledged immatures were seen during the survey of the Mississippi River on August 1 to 3 (SAE et al.). Although the hawk population appeared to be down in Owensboro, a Sharp-shinned Hawk was observed during the period (RI); one south of Mt. Victory, Pulaski County, June 23 (BPB). Single Cooper's Hawks were sighted at the following locations: an immature at Central Kentucky Wildlife Management Area (hereafter CKWMA), Madison County, July 20 (GR), at Canton, Trigg County, June 12 (CP), and in Henry County, June 3 (FS, S). A pair of Broad-winged Hawks at Bedford on June 29 (JY) and one at Pulaski County Park, July 1 (JEl) were probably breeding birds. A Red-tailed Hawk nest at CKWMA fledged two young (GR); and the species continued to maintain a stable population in northern Kentucky (LMc). Red-shouldered Hawks continue to be scarce, but it was encouraging that four birds were observed at three locations in Hopkins County (JH). Five nests of American Kestrels were unsuccessful at CKWMA due to predation (Chris Kellner *fide* GR); good numbers at Fort Wright (EG).

Bobwhite through Rails — The population of Bobwhites was up this year in the Owensboro area (RI), but down slightly on the Breeding Bird Survey in Shelby and Henry Counties (S); a pair with five young crossed a Louisville yard (no date, KC). A nest of King Rails containing 13 eggs was found in Fulton County on May 27 (BPB and J. Getgood), but the adults which were present in May could not be located on June 17 and the empty nest was collected (BPB, BN). The nest of the King Rail is note-

worthy because breeding data of this species have not been reported since the 1950's.

Shorebirds — Fall migrants began appearing in small numbers in early July and increased slightly by the end of the month. A Lesser Golden Plover appeared at the Falls of the Ohio on July 17 (LR) and a few Semipalmated Plovers were present at Mayfair Basins on July 20 (DN). Two nests of Killdeer were found at Burlington and each fledged four young (LMc); a nest with two young at Bedford (JY). A single Lesser Yellow-legs was present at the Falls of the Ohio on July 8 and tied the 1975 record (JEl, LR). A Solitary Sandpiper was fairly early at Pond River, July 7 (JH) and others did not appear in various places in Louisville until July 19-31 (LR, DN) and four sighted near Frazer, Wayne County, July 26 (JEl). An early migrant was the Willet at Louisville on July 9 (DN, LR, with J. R. Noonan). The Ruddy Turnstone at the Falls of the Ohio on June 6 was most likely a late spring migrant (LR). A Sanderling was present at the latter location on July 25 (BPB) and 30 (BN). Single Western Sandpipers were observed at Mayfair Basins, July 20 and 27 (DN) and at the Falls of the Ohio, July 31 (S, FS). A single Pectoral Sandpiper on a small pond in Spencer County, July 17 was fairly early (S); four were reported at Mayfair Basins on July 20 (DN), but 16 were present at the Falls of the Ohio on July 31 (S, FS). Only small numbers of Least Sandpipers had returned to Louisville by July 31 (m. ob.).

Gulls, Terns — A first-year Herring Gull was present at the Falls of the Ohio from late May through July; a second-year bird was also observed there the first week of July; and a first-year bird was at Smithland Dam, Livingston County, June 18 (BPB). A few Ring-billed Gulls were also present at the Falls of the Ohio in July: a second-year bird was there from late May through early July and a first-year bird arrived in early July, but disappeared (BPB); one, not aged, was there on July 9 (DN, LR) and also present on July 31 (S, FS); and 40 at Kentucky Dam, June 17 (BPB, BN). Two Laughing Gulls (sub-adults) at the Falls, June 7, were unexpected (BPB, with J. Lewis). A Caspian Tern was present at Louisville on July 9 and 24 (DN, LR). Two Least Terns were observed at the pumping station in the Hickman Bottoms where they were catching "minnows and carrying them off towards a large sandbar on the Mississippi River," June 17 (BPB, BN). An interesting find was the *215* Least Terns, including five young of the year, as well as finding three definite and three suspected nesting colonies, the largest being at Kentucky Point Bar in Fulton County; 40 nests with eggs were counted during the first three days of August (SAE, et al.).

Cuckoos through Woodpeckers — The only report of the Black-billed Cuckoo was at Fort Wright where its notes were heard throughout the period (EG). Comments on the Yellow-billed Cuckoo varied from scarce in northern Kentucky to normal numbers in the southwestern part of the state. The only report of a Barn Owl was of one roosting in a barn at Stanley during May and June (RI). A Screech Owl nest at CKWMA produced two young (GR). Horned Owls were in greater numbers than usual at Bedford, Trimble County (JY). The population of Common Nighthawks seemed to be stable at Covington (LMc), but numbers were down in Louisville (S). Seven Chuck-will's-widows were heard on the Shiloh, Calloway

County BBS, June 3 and three on the Canton, Trigg County survey, June 12 (CP); fewer were heard in the Rough River area this season (KC). A nest of Ruby-throated Hummingbirds fledged two young in Madison County (GR) and a nest was discovered in Ballard County, but no follow up was made (DS); fair numbers were seen at the Falls of the Rough, but no nests were found (KC); only one bird was sighted on the 10 counts made in June in Hopkins County (JH). Woodpecker species, with the exception of the Northern Flicker, seemed to be in lower numbers than normal at Burlington (LMc). Red-headed Woodpeckers nested successfully at Bedford (JY) and at the Falls of the Rough (KC). Two young were fledged from the nest of a Pileated Woodpecker at Boone County Cliffs Nature Preserve (LMc) and numbers remained constant at Bedford (JY).

Flycatchers through Swallows — Wood Pewees showed some increase in Hopkins County when 65 birds were recorded on 10 counts during the month of June as compared to 49 last year (JH). Fifteen Acadian Flycatchers were present at Elk Creek, Hopkins County, June 19 (JH). Single Willow Flycatchers were recorded at Petersburg and at Hamilton, Boone County, June 23 (LMc). Three Least Flycatchers were heard singing at the summit of Big Black Mountain, Harlan County, June 24 (BPB and R. Cassell). Four nests of the Eastern Phoebe were found in Meade County (BN). A good colony of Purple Martins was noted in Ballard County, with approximately 75 pairs nesting there (S, DS, FS). Fall migration of the Purple Martins began rather early with some 2000 birds at Shippingport Island on July 16 and about 4000 there the following day and less than 1000 there on July 20 (DN with J. R. Noonan); also the several thousand that congregated at the Falls of the Ohio in late July (no date) may have been part of the above group (BPB); and 70 were at Pulaski County Park, July 26 (JEl). A noteworthy find was the eight Tree Swallow nests in dead tree snags in a strip mine pit in Ohio County, June 15 (BF); no nests were found at Long Run County Park this year (S). A colony of 20 pairs of Bank Swallows was found in a gravel pit in Burlington and smaller colonies were at abandoned pits (LMc); a large colony in a dirt bank along the Mississippi River, just south of Hickman (Brian Anderson et al. *fide* SAE); a nesting colony at the north end of Island No. 8 (SAE et al.); and a colony at Cumberland Island on the Ohio River (Frank Boyd (USFWS) *fide* SAE). Fewer Rough-winged Swallows nested in Henry and Meade Counties as compared with 1983 (S, BN, respectively). Cliff Swallow nests were down in numbers from last year at Barren River Reservoir — 330 in 1983 and 208 in 1984. This decrease may have been due in part to the heavy rains in May raising the water levels and thus washing away some of the nests on the sides of the bridge (WM). Barn Swallows were scarce at Owensboro (RI).

Ravens — A nest with six young *Common Ravens* discovered in Letcher County during the period was an extraordinary find. The nest was first discovered by John MacGregor and later checked with Sherri Evans (JMc).

Wrens through Shrikes — There were mixed reports on the status of the Carolina Wren: near normal numbers in Boone County (LMc); not doing well in Trigg and Hopkins Counties (CP, JH); but successful nestings at two Louisville locations and at Burlington (KC, S, LMc). Bewick's Wrens are still scarce, but nest building was observed at Leitchfield (A.

Wilson *fide* KC); a nest with three eggs at Elizabethtown, later abandoned (GE); and single birds noted on the Canton BBS in Trigg County, June 12 (CP) and on the Merrimac BBS in northern Taylor County, June 3 (BPB and D. Ebel). Six nests of House Wrens were reported at the Western Kentucky University Farm, Bowling Green (HS); also heard on the Greenville BBS in Muhlenberg County, where previously it had not been recorded (R. Head *fide* CP). Eastern Bluebird numbers were not up to normal levels at Murray and Crestwood, although nest boxes were provided at the latter location (CP, HA, respectively), but were on the increase in Daviess (RI) and Trimble Counties (JY). Gray Catbirds continued to occur in low numbers in some Louisville locations (S) and numbers were "still down" for the Mockingbird at Owensboro (RI). Two nests of Cedar Waxwings were found in Bowling Green (BF); although no nests were found at Burlington and Pulaski County Park, small groups were present throughout the period (LMc, JEl, respectively); others nested on Surrey Hill Farm, Louisville, Jefferson County (BPB) and several young fledglings were seen near Westport, Oldham County, July 22 (BBC). Three Loggerhead Shrikes were noted in Hopkins County on June 11 (JH) and a pair was present near Union during the period (LMc).

Vireos through Warblers — In a distribution study made in Hopkins County, the population of White-eyed and Yellow-throated Vireos remained about the same as the previous year, while the Red-eyed Vireo increased in numbers (JH). A Blue-winged Warbler was noted at Lock Mary, Hopkins County, June 5, where the species is very rare in summer (JH); present throughout June at Big Bone State Park (LMc). A male Black-throated Blue Warbler was heard and seen on the northwest slope of Pine Mountain in Leslie County (no date — BPB, with R. Cassell and J. MacGregor). A Pine Warbler with young was seen at the Boy Scout Reservation, Marshall County, June 15 (J. Weatherly *fide* CP); two pairs were noted at Bedford, July 2 (JY). Single Northern Parula Warblers were present at two locations in Hopkins County during June (JH). Two male American Redstarts were seen at Bedford on July 2 (JY). Several Prothonotary Warblers were nesting in a swampy area along with Tree Swallows in Ohio County, June 15 (BF); present at East Bend during the period (LMc). Worm-eating Warblers were holding a small but stable population in Boone County (LMc). A Swainson's Warbler was heard at Elk Creek, Hopkins County, June 19 (JH). An interesting record was that of an Ovenbird singing along Barker's Hill Road in Christian County, June 8 (CP). There seemed to be a small but stable population of Ovenbirds and Louisiana Waterthrushes at Boone County Cliffs Nature Preserve (LMc). June surveys in 1983 and 1984 in Hopkins County showed a 56% increase in Kentucky Warblers (JH). Common Yellowthroats were up in the Owensboro area (RI); few recorded along streams in Shelby and Henry Counties during early June (S, FS); a nest at Eubank contained two eggs of the host and two of the Brown-headed Cowbird (JEl).

Cardinals through Finches — Several Cardinals were seen feeding young Brown-headed Cowbirds in the Louisville area (KC). Blue Grosbeaks continued to expand eastward: five nests were found at CKWMA: one nest fledged three young, two fledged one young, two nests were lost to predators and adults with young were believed to be another pair (GR). A nest of Indigo Buntings containing three host eggs and one Brown-headed Cow-

bird egg was found at Eubank, July 19 and another there on July 30 contained three host eggs (JEl). A Bachman's Sparrow was found on the Pleasureville BBS in Henry County, June 3 (S, FS). A Lark Sparrow was heard in Shelby County, June 3 on a BBS (S, FS). Two Savannah Sparrows were heard singing in northeastern Jefferson County on July 18-21 and may have represented a first county summer record for that species (BBC). An estimated 10 breeding pairs of Grasshopper Sparrows and 15 pairs of Henslow's Sparrows were present during the period at CKWMA (GR). Orchard Orioles appeared to be in low numbers locally (S), but a nest was found at CKWMA (GR) and at the Falls of the Rough (KC); also a singing male on the Pleasureville BBS, June 3 (S). House Finches have become a regular breeding bird in Kentucky: young noted at Owensboro (RI), east Louisville (two locations — KC, S, FS), and two nests in south Louisville, with four young fledged in one, the other nest was abandoned (WJ).

Contributors — Helen Abell (HA), William Bauer (WB), Kathryn Clay (KC), Jackie Elmore, (JEl), Sherri Evans (SAE), George Elliott (GE), Blaine Ferrell (BF), Michael Flynn (MF), E. Groneman (EG), James W. Hancock (JH), Ramon Iles (RI), Wilbur Jackson (WJ), Lee McNeely (LMc), Wayne Mason (WM), John MacGregor (JMc), Barry Nichols (BN), Doxie Noonan (DN), Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. (BPB), Clell Peterson (CP), Lene Rauth (LR), Gary Ritchison (GR), Herbert Shadowen (HS), Anne L. Stamm (S), F. W. Stamm (FS), Donald Summerfield (DS), John Young (JY). Other abbreviations — Ballard Waterfowl Management Area (BWMA), Central Kentucky Wildlife Management Area (CKWMA), Breeding Bird Survey (BBS), Beckham Bird Club (BBC).

— 9101 Spokane Way, Louisville 40222.

THE KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
FALL MEETING — SEPTEMBER 28-30, 1984

The Kentucky Ornitholigical Society held its 1984 Fall Meeting at Morehead State University, Morehead, Kentucky on September 28-30. President Pierre Allaire called the Friday evening session to order. After welcoming everyone, he introduced the Vice-president, Fred Busroe, who welcomed K.O.S. to the Morehead University campus and introduced the two speakers. Sherri Evans of the Nongame Wildlife Program, Frankfort, Kentucky, presented the current status of Kentucky's Breeding Bird Atlas, enlisted volunteers to help with the atlas and answered questions about the five-year survey for the atlas. Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., presented information about birding at the TVA Paradise Steam Plant on the Green River in Muhlenberg County, Ky.

Bert Powell told K.O.S. members about the illness of Sister Casimir Czurles and had a card for the group to sign.

The Saturday morning field trip was announced. A social hour followed the meeting.

Saturday morning, Fred Busroe and Lew Kornman led a field trip to the Minor Clark fish hatchery below Cave Run Dam. The morning was foggy and quite cool, but became sunny in the late morning. Shorebirds, herons and swallows were found at the ponds, osprey and eagles overhead and warblers in the trees. A Double-crested Cormorant was observed just above the dam.

At 2:30 P.M. Brian Anderson of the Kentucky Nature Preserves Commission presented a program on the Bald Eagle Survey at the Ballard Wildlife Management Area: numbers of birds, suitable habitat and roosting sites. Terry Siemsen of the Corps of Engineers explained work on the Ohio River that is being considered, and the Corp's interest in the Bald Eagles in the area.

The Board of Directors met at 4:00 P.M. in the East Room of the Student Center, Morehead State University.

The banquet buffet was held in the Red Room of the Student Center. Dr. Madison Pryor, Professor at Morehead State University, was the banquet speaker. He shared his views of the Antarctic Continent and gave an excellent presentation of the penguins and other birds of the Antarctic. Blaine Ferrell led the group in compiling the day's bird lists — a total of 93 species. President Allaire announced several suggestions from the Board of Directors: 1). to put an announcement in *The Kentucky Warbler* that members who are moving should inform the editor, 2). to ask the general membership to make suggestions during the next year regarding how much to increase the dues — to be voted on at the Spring Meeting.

The Spring Meeting will be held at Mammoth Cave National Park, April 19, 20 and 21.

Jim Williams of the Nominating Committee presented the following slate of officers: Blaine Ferrell — President, Fred Busroe — Vice-president,

Lee McNeely — Recording Secretary, Harriet Korfhage — Corresponding Secretary-Treasurer, Mary Lydia Greenwell and Dr. Wendell Kingsolver — Councillors. The slate was accepted by acclamation. The group gave a vote of appreciation to Fred Busroe for his planning of this meeting and to the outgoing officers: Pierre Allaire, Virginia Kingsolver and Jim Williams. The meeting adjourned. Fred Busroe announced plans for the Sunday morning field trips. Total registrations for the meeting were 62. After adding Sunday's list of birds to Saturday's, the total species list for the meeting was 97.

Respectfully submitted,
Virginia Kingsolver
Recording Secretary

BIRDS REPORTED ON FIELD TRIPS AT THE FALL MEETING IN THE VICINITY OF THE MINOR E. CLARK FISH HATCHERY

September 28-30, 1984

Pied-billed Grebe, Double-crested Cormorant, Great Blue Heron, Green-backed Heron, Wood Duck, Northern Pintail, Black Vulture, Turkey Vulture, Osprey, Bald Eagle, Sharp-shinned Hawk, Cooper's Hawk, Red-shouldered Hawk, Red-tailed Hawk, American Kestrel, Peregrine Falcon*, Ruffed Grouse, Killdeer, Spotted Sandpiper, Semipalmated Sandpiper, Least Sandpiper, Baird's Sandpiper, Pectoral Sandpiper, Black Tern, Rock Dove, Mourning Dove, Eastern Screech Owl, Barred Owl, Chimney Swift, Ruby-throated Hummingbird, Belted Kingfisher, Red-headed Woodpecker, Red-bellied Woodpecker, Downy Woodpecker, Hairy Woodpecker, Northern Flicker, Pileated Woodpecker, Eastern Wood-Pewee, Eastern Phoebe, Purple Martin*, Tree Swallow, Northern Rough-winged Swallow, Bank Swallow, Cliff Swallow, Barn Swallow, Blue Jay, American Crow, Carolina Chickadee, Tufted Titmouse, White-breasted Nuthatch, Carolina Wren, House Wren, Winter Wren, Ruby-crowned Kinglet, Eastern Bluebird, Swainson's Thrush, American Robin, Gray Catbird, Northern Mockingbird, Brown Thrasher, Water Pipit*, Cedar Waxwing, European Starling, White-eyed Vireo, Solitary Vireo, Philadelphia Vireo, Tennessee Warbler, Nashville Warbler, Magnolia Warbler, Cape May Warbler, Yellow-rumped Warbler, Black-throated Green Warbler, Blackburnian Warbler, Pine Warbler, Bay-breasted Warbler, American Redstart, Ovenbird, Common Yellowthroat, Summer Tanager, Scarlet Tanager, Northern Cardinal, Rose-breasted Grosbeak, Blue Grosbeak, Indigo Bunting, Rufous-sided Towhee, Chipping Sparrow, Field Sparrow, Savannah Sparrow, Song Sparrow, White-throated Sparrow, Red-winged Blackbird, Eastern Meadowlark, Common Grackle, American Goldfinch, Evening Grosbeak and House Sparrow. Those species with an asterisk were observed on Sunday. — Total species: 97.

ATTENDANCE AT THE K.O.S. 1984 FALL MEETING AT MOREHEAD STATE UNIVERSITY

CARLISLE: Dr. and Mrs. Wendell Kingsolver

CLEARFIELD: Foley Partin

BOWLING GREEN: Dr. and Mrs. Blaine Ferrell, Mr. and Mrs. William Mathes

BURLINGTON: Lee McNeely, Tom Stephens

FRANKFORT: Lynda Andrews, Brian Anderson, Marc Evans, Sherri Evans

HAZARD: Heather Ladan, Dr. and Mrs. Dennis Sandlin, Dr. and Mrs. Wayne Sladek, Dr. Donnie Spencer

JACKSON: Dr. and Mrs. Pierre Allaire

LEXINGTON: Brad Andres, Robert Morris, Glenn Raleigh, Mr. and Mrs. Jim Williams

LOUISVILLE: Robert Brown, Beth Douthitt, Katherine Fulkerson, Judi Jones, Harriet Korfhage, Margaret Korfhage, Mildred Neblett, Barry Nichols, Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., Mr. and Mrs. Frederick Stamm, Donald Summerfield

MACEO: A. L. Powell

MOREHEAD: Mr. and Mrs. Fred Busroe, Katie Busroe, Carolyn Brown, Bob Day, Stephen Hale, Lewis Kornman, Sarah McClellan, Cathy Schwab, Tim Sloane, George Young

MURRAY: Dr. Clell Peterson

OWENSBORO: Mary L. Greenwell, Mr. and Mrs. Ramon Iles, William Perkins, Mr. and Mrs. L. E. Wilson

STANLEY: Mr. and Mrs. Thomas Stevenson

WEST LIBERTY: Mr. and Mrs. Gary Elam, Helen Wells

KENTUCKY ORNITHOLOGICAL SOCIETY
Report of the Treasurer
For the Fiscal Year 1983-1984

GENERAL FUND

Cash Balance as of September 23, 1983		$ 839.51
Receipts		
Membership Dues	$2,220.00	
Gift	250.00	
Interest — Endowment Fund	397.85	
Interest — Gordon Wilson Fund	145.79	
Meetings — 1983	558.00	
Fall Meeting — 1984	228.50	
Sale of Warblers, Check Lists, etc.	95.50	$3,895.64
		$4,735.15
Disbursements		
Printing: *Kentucky Warbler*	$1,749.79	
Envelopes	137.75	
Check Lists	242.00	
Postage	215.29	
Meeting Expenses	503.10	
Treasurer's Expenses	66.34	
Safety Deposit Box Rental Fee	20.00	
Miscellaneous Expenses	40.35	
Due Beckham Bird Club	42.00	
Bank Charges	10.34	
Transfer of Life Membership to Endowment Fund	225.00	
Transfer of Interest to Gordon Wilson Fund	145.79	$3,397.75
Cash Balance — First National Bank as of September 25, 1984		$1,337.40

ENDOWMENT FUND

Balance in Savings Account, Future Federal, as of September 25, 1983		$1,311.57
Certificates of Deposit; (3)		3,500.00
		$4,811.57
Receipts		
Transfer of Life Memberships	$ 225.00	
Interest on Certificates of Deposit	397.85	
Interest on Savings Account	42.59	$ 665.44
		$5,477.01

Disbursements

Transfer to General Fund	$ 397.85
Balance in Fund as of September 25, 1984	$5,079.16
Certificates of Deposit; (4)	$4,500.00
Balance in Savings Account	579.16

GORDON WILSON FUND FOR ORNITHOLOGY

Balance in Savings Account as of September 23, 1983		$ 787.33
Certificates of Deposit (2) at Great Financial Federal		$2,000.00
		$2,787.33

Receipts

Interest on Certificates of Deposit	$ 145.79	
Interest on Savings Account	39.27	185.06
		$2,972.39
Certificates of Deposit (2)	$2,000.00	
Balance in Savings Account	972.39	
TOTAL	$2,972.39	

BALANCE SHEET
September 25, 1984
Assets

Cash — General Fund	$1,337.40
Endowment Fund	5,079.16
Gordon Wilson Fund	2,972.39
TOTAL	$9,388.95
NET WORTH	$9,388.95

Harriet Korfhage, Treasurer

FIELD NOTES

FIRST REPORT OF THE SABINE'S GULL IN KENTUCKY

On the morning of 9 September 1984, the authors independently discovered an immature Sabine's Gull *(Larus sabini)* at the Falls of the Ohio, Kentucky-Indiana. Andres first saw the bird at approximately 8:30 a.m. as it perched on the fossil shelf that extends southwest from the Indiana bank, and then as it fed and rested along the pools of water of the outer fossil shelf. Palmer-Ball first observed the bird about an hour later and immediately initiated the local bird alert.

Subsequent to the September 9 sightings, it was discovered that the Sabine's Gull had been observed at the Falls on the afternoon of September 8 by Garrett Adams who had not known the bird's identity. His detailed description of the bird left no doubt that he had indeed seen it on the previous afternoon.

Over the next three days, many birders were fortunate enough to observe the Sabine's Gull as it foraged and rested at various locations throughout the Falls of the Ohio area, including Indiana portions of the Falls. The bird remained in the vicinity until the evening of September 11 when it was last seen about 6:30 p.m. The Sabine's Gull was very tame and repeatedly allowed close approach. On the afternoon of September 11 it ate about 20 small, live minnows that were tossed to it from as close as 15 feet by several local birders.

In flight, the species' diagnostic, as well as strikingly beautiful, wing pattern of black, white and gray-brown triangles was unmistakable. At rest the "scaley" appearance produced by the light-edged back feathers and upper wing coverts identified the gull as a 1st-year bird (see cover photo of this issue). In addition, it had a slightly forked tail with subterminal black band and only a narrow whitish edge to the tips of the retrices. The gray-brown of the back continued up the nape onto the crown and along the sides of the throat and upper breast. The forehead was white, and the bill was relatively short and slim and entirely black. The eye was dark and the legs and feet were grayish with a slight tinge of olive and blue in varying lights. The bird was relatively small, being only slightly larger than a Common Tern that perched nearby on several occasions.

This is the first record of the Sabine's Gull for Kentucky and the first record away from Lake Michigan for Indiana. Photographs of the bird were obtained on September 9 and 11.

Interestingly, on the afternoon of September 30, Palmer-Ball observed a Sabine's Gull at the Falls of the Ohio. Although the gull was observed at some distance, the distinctive wing pattern was immediately evident. In fact, the bird was observed only in flight as it moved with strong wingbeats (presumably migrating) down the river channel southwest of the fossil beds. Upon reaching the lower dam structure, it gained altitude and passed over it, heading straight downstream. If a different individual, this gull probably passed by the Falls and continued down the river, choosing to rest somewhere else.

It was originally presumed that this was a different bird because

there were no sightings of Sabine's Gull reported during the intervening three-week period. However, on the afternoon of 5 October 1984 Barry Nichols reported a first-year Sabine's Gull resting at the Falls of the Ohio with a small group of Ring-billed Gulls. This individual flew around briefly, then disappeared with the Ring-bills when something scared them. It was not observed later that afternoon, nor over the next few days.

It remains unclear how many Sabine's Gulls were actually observed at the Falls of the Ohio, but the occurrences of one, two or even three individuals are possible. It also remains to be seen whether or not these sightings were part of a regionwide flight for the species during the fall of 1984. — BRAD ANDRES, 506 Springhill Drive, Lexington and BRAINARD PALMER-BALL, JR., 8207 Old Westport Road, Louisville.

RUNT EGG IN THE CARDINAL

Runt egg in the Cardinal. — Unusually small or runt eggs are extremely rare, with very few reports on the occurrence of such eggs in nature. Among the few species or groups in which runt eggs have been reported are the Canada Goose *(Branta canadensis)*, gulls *(Larus spp.)*, House Wren *(Troglodytes aedon)*, Starling *(Sturnus vulgaris)*, Common Grackle *(Quiscalus quiscula)* and several woodpeckers *(Picidae)* (Koenig, Wilson Bull. 92:169-176, 1980). In each of these the incidence of runt eggs is extremely low, ranging from 0.02% in gulls to 0.6% in the Canada Goose. In one exceptional species, the Acorn Woodpecker *(Melanerpes formicivorus)*, the percentage of runt eggs has been reported to be 4.32% (Koenig, 1980). On 22 July 1983 I found a runt egg in a Cardinal *(Cardinalis cardinalis)* nest located in the Central Kentucky Wildlife Management Area, 11 miles SSE of Richmond, Madison County. The nest also contained two normal eggs. The normal eggs subsequently hatched on 2 August and the young fledged on 14 August. The runt egg measured 14.33 x 12.86 mm as compared with 25.3 x 18.2 mm and 21.8 x 16.8 mm given by Bent (U.S. Natl. Mus. Bull. 237, 1968) as the average and smallest measurements, respectively, for Cardinal eggs. The egg showed no evidence of embryonic development and contained no yolk. The absence of yolk has also been noted in the runt eggs of other species (Romanoff and Romanoff, The Avian Egg, Wiley and Sons, New York, 1949). During 1982 and 1983 I examined a total of 33 Cardinal nests containing 86 eggs and the runt egg just described was the only one found. Further, I could find no other reports in the literature of runt eggs in Cardinals.

Little is known about runt eggs. Physiologically, such eggs are apparently produced by temporary disturbances, accidents, or infections in the oviduct (Romanoff and Romanoff, 1949). Very few are thought to be the result of permanent abnormalities (Pearl and Curtis, J. Agric. Res. 6:977-1042, 1916). The only species with a fairly high incidence of runt eggs appears to be the Acorn Woodpecker. Koenig (1980) indicated that this high incidence of runt eggs was associated with the communal nesting habits of these woodpeckers. That is, as females attempt to maneuver within the nest cavities they may come in contact with each other or the walls of the cavity. The increased levels of disturbance caused by such physical contact may subsequently result in the production of runt eggs. — Gary Ritchison, Dept. of Biological Sciences, Eastern Kentucky University, Richmond, KY 40475.

NEWS AND VIEWS

KENTUCKY BREEDING BIRD ATLAS VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Anyone having an interest in Kentucky's birdlife is invited to participate in one of the most significant ornithological studies ever undertaken in the state — the Kentucky Breeding Bird Atlas (KBBA) project. The purpose of the project is to map the current distribution of every species of bird which breeds in the state during a five year period. This information is urgently needed by wildlife agencies in order to make important decisions concerning our wildlife resources, and will be useful to resource planners, researchers, students and others.

The KBBA project is sponsored by the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife Resources Nongame Wildlife Program in cooperation with the Kentucky Ornithological Society. Similar projects are underway in over 20 states and several Canadian provinces.

The KBBA will involve five years of field work carried out largely by volunteers, and is scheduled to begin in spring of 1985. Because a project of this magnitude must rely on volunteers with all degrees of experience and expertise, volunteers will receive training in how to conduct field surveys as well as in how to identify birds and interpret their behavior.

Below is a list of project coordinators. Each region has a coordinator who will oversee all atlas work in that region. Anyone interested in participating in the KBBA should send their name, address and phone number to the coordinator for the region they wish to work in; if that region presently lacks a coordinator, this information can be sent to a state coordinator. Volunteers will receive additional information about the project and be assigned an atlas block to survey.

Come join the thousands of atlasers trekking through the field and forest across the continent. The Kentucky Breeding Bird Atlas will be a huge success if everyone interested in Kentucky's birds gets involved.

PROJECT COORDINATORS

State Coordinators

Sherri A. Evans
Nongame Wildlife Program (Atlas Headquarters)
Kentucky Dept. of Fish and Wildlife Resources
#1 Game Farm Rd.
Frankfort, KY 40601

Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr.
8207 Old Westport Rd.
Louisville, KY 40222

Regional Coordinators

1 Dr. Clell Peterson, 901 N. 18th, Murray, KY 42701

2 COORDINATOR NEEDED

3 Dr. Blaine R. Ferrell, Biol. Dept., Western Ky. Univ., Bowling Green, KY 42101
Wayne M. Mason, 925 Park St., Bowling Green, KY 42101

4 Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr., 8207 Westport Rd., Louisville, KY 40222

5 Lee K. McNeely, P.O. Box 463, 2932 Gallatin St., Burlington, KY 41005

6 Robert L. Morris, 219 Taylor Dr., Lexington, KY 40505

7 COORDINATOR NEEDED

8 Fred M. Busroe, Dept. Biol. & Env. Sci., Morehead State Univ., Morehead, KY 40351

9 Dr. Pierre N. Allaire, Lees College, Jackson, KY 41339

10 Barry Howard, Pine Mt. State Resort Pk., Pineville, KY 40977

COOPERATION REQUESTED

During the spring and summer of 1984, the Ohio Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit began a study of Sandhill Cranes at Seney National Wildlife Refuge, in the Upper Peninsula of Michigan. Ultimately, results of this work could lead to a cross-fostering program in an effort to establish a population of whooping cranes in the Upper Peninsula. To begin to learn the migration route and pattern of the Seney Sandhill Cranes, we marked 69 cranes with red, white and green leg bands, each ¾ inches high. Each crane carried three to six bands, one to three bands on each leg, and each crane carried all three colors.

We are asking for your cooperation in reporting to us all sightings of these birds; we wish to know the date the bird was sighted, the color and position of bands on each leg, the specific location of the bird when sighted and whether the bird was on the ground or in flight. Send information to: Theodore A. Bookhout — Unit Leader, Ohio Cooperative Wildlife Research Unit, 1735 Neil Avenue, The Ohio State University, Columbus, Ohio 43210.

1984 MID-WINTER BIRD COUNT

Forms for the Mid-winter Bird Count have been mailed. If you desire to participate as a compiler and have not received the forms, please contact the Editor. All birds recorded must be within a 15-mile diameter circle. Extraordinary sightings must be accompanied with a verification form which will be provided to each compiler.

BALLARD COUNTY CHRISTMAS BIRD COUNT

The second Ballard County Christmas Bird Count will be held on Saturday, 28 December 1984. All K.O.S. members are welcome to participate. Interested persons should contact Brainard Palmer-Ball, Jr. before December 15 for further details at 8207 Old Westport Road, Louisville, KY 40222 (502-425-2828).

IN MEMORIAM

The Kentucky Ornithological Society has recently lost two of its long-time members: Mary Travis (Mrs. Nathaniel M.)and Thelma Gentry,

both of Madisonville. Mrs. Travis, a retired legal secretary, was a Life Member of K.O.S. and secretary of the Tradewater River Audubon Society. Miss Gentry, a retired school teacher, served as secretary-treasurer of the K.O.S. in 1941-42. Both women attended state meetings quite regularly until recent illnesses prevented them from doing so. They will be missed by all who knew them and sincere sympathy is extended to their families.

MOVING?

If you are moving or changing address, please notify the Corresponding Secretary-treasurer in order that the mailing of *The Kentucky Warbler* may be carried out expeditiously. Thank you.

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By Blaine R. Ferrell

The names of participants in the Mid-winter Bird Counts and seasonal Reports have not been included in this index. The names of species on these counts and those in large tables have not been listed either. Species included in longer articles are not listed unless accompanied by a significant note. The capital letter R indicates a book review.

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